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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Patricia Kuhl: The linguistic genius of babies | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

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**.

writ

n. a written legal order or command

synonym: legal document, order, legal process

(1) a **writ** of summons, (2) issue a **writ**

He was served with a **writ** of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.

celestial

adj. relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens

synonym: heavenly, divine, ethereal

(1) **celestial** bliss, (2) **celestial** navigation

The **celestial** bodies in the night sky were beautiful to behold.

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.

puberty

n. the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction

synonym: adolescence, young adulthood

(1) at the height of **puberty** ., (2) the onset of **puberty**

In this culture, men are initiated when they reach **puberty**.

adore

v. to have a deep love and admiration for someone or something; to regard with great affection and reverence

synonym: cherish, worship, idolize

(1) truly **adore** him, (2) **adore** the way she styles her hair

Children seem to **adore** chocolate ice cream no matter where they're from.

moth

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

(1) **moth** larva, (2) **moth** attracted to the light

The **moth** is a serious threat to the farm's output.

stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

synonym: brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels

The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

exposition

n. a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display

synonym: explanation, description, account

(1) an international **exposition**, (2) rational **exposition**

The **exposition** in the novel provides background information on the characters and setting.

mandarin

n. an influential and high-ranking official, notably in the civil service; the branch of Chinese, which is the official language of China

synonym : Chinese, Beijing dialect

(1) ancient **mandarin** house, (2) **Mandarin** Chinese
Mandarin dialects typically have relatively few vowels.

monolingual

adj. being able to speak or use only one language

synonym : unilingual

(1) **monolingual** policies, (2) **monolingual** country
The lack of exposure to foreign languages made her a **monolingual** speaker.

electroencephalography

v. (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions

synonym : brain wave test, EEG, neural scan

(1) **electroencephalography** test, (2) abnormal **electroencephalography**

She is an **electroencephalography** technician skilled in performing EEG tests on patients.

pellet

n. a small, round piece of compressed material, such as wood or plastic

synonym : bead, ball, bullet

(1) the form of a small **pellet**, (2) **pellet** stove

The **pellet** gun was used to shoot small metal balls.

constrain

v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something

synonym : restrict, limit, confine

(1) **constrain** his freedom, (2) **constrain** information flow

The political situation **constrained** the country's economic growth and foreign relations.

auditory

adj. of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear

synonym: hearing, audible, aural

(1) a good **auditory** memory, (2) **auditory** system

The **auditory** nerve carries sound signals from the ear to the brain.

coherence

n. the quality of being logical and consistent

synonym: consistency, harmony, unity

(1) **coherence** in a speech, (2) lack **coherence**

The story's **coherence** could have been better when the author included too many unrelated details.

embark

v. to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something

synonym: enter, undertake, commence

(1) **embark** on a trip, (2) **embark** on a foolish adventure

We **embarked** on a new project.

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.

uncover

v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden

synonym: disclose, reveal, unveil

(1) **uncover** a potential problem, (2) **uncover** the truth

He continued his investigation and soon **uncovered** another crime.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. ancient ma_____in house | <i>n.</i> an influential and high-ranking official, notably in the civil service; the branch of Chinese, which is the official language of China |
| 2. un_____r the truth | <i>v.</i> to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden |
| 3. em___k on a foolish adventure | <i>v.</i> to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something |
| 4. a_t view | <i>adj.</i> (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle |
| 5. ad__e the way she styles her hair | <i>v.</i> to have a deep love and admiration for someone or something; to regard with great affection and reverence |
| 6. co_____in his freedom | <i>v.</i> to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something |
| 7. the branch of neu_____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system |
| 8. wo_____us adventure | <i>adj.</i> inspiring amazement or admiration; extremely beautiful and impressive |
| 9. un_____r a potential problem | <i>v.</i> to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden |

ANSWERS: 1. mandarin, 2. uncover, 3. embark, 4. aft, 5. adore, 6. constrain, 7. neuroscience, 8. wondrous, 9. uncover

10. ce_____al bliss *adj.* relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
11. ce_____al navigation *adj.* relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
12. au_____ry system *adj.* of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear
13. abnormal
ele_____phy *n.* (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions
14. st_____ze blood sugar levels *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
15. Ma_____in Chinese *n.* an influential and high-ranking official, notably in the civil service; the branch of Chinese, which is the official language of China
16. the onset of pu_____y *n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
17. wo_____us sight *adj.* inspiring amazement or admiration; extremely beautiful and impressive
18. mon_____al policies *adj.* being able to speak or use only one language
19. truly ad__e him *v.* to have a deep love and admiration for someone or something; to regard with great affection and reverence

ANSWERS: 10. celestial, 11. celestial, 12. auditory, 13. electroencephalography, 14. stabilize, 15. mandarin, 16. puberty, 17. wondrous, 18. monolingual, 19. adore

20. co_____in information flow *v.* to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
21. at the height of pu_____y. *n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
22. issue a w__t *n.* a written legal order or command
23. pe___t stove *n.* a small, round piece of compressed material, such as wood or plastic
24. mon_____al country *adj.* being able to speak or use only one language
25. an international exp_____on *n.* a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
26. lack co_____ce *n.* the quality of being logical and consistent
27. rational exp_____on *n.* a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
28. ele_____phy test *n.* (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions

ANSWERS: 20. constrain, 21. puberty, 22. writ, 23. pellet, 24. monolingual, 25. exposition, 26. coherence, 27. exposition, 28. electroencephalography

29. a good au____ry memory *adj.* of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear
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. co_____ce in a speech *n.* the quality of being logical and consistent
32. m__h attracted to the light *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
33. em___k on a trip *v.* to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
34. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
35. m__h larva *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
36. st_____ze prices *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
37. a w__t of summons *n.* a written legal order or command
38. the form of a small pe___t *n.* a small, round piece of compressed material, such as wood or plastic

ANSWERS: 29. auditory, 30. neuroscience, 31. coherence, 32. moth, 33. embark, 34. aft, 35. moth, 36. stabilize, 37. writ, 38. pellet

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The political situation _____ the country's economic growth and foreign relations.
v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
2. The _____ in the novel provides background information on the characters and setting.
n. a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
3. The _____ beauty of the sunset left us all in awe.
adj. inspiring amazement or admiration; extremely beautiful and impressive
4. The _____ gun was used to shoot small metal balls.
n. a small, round piece of compressed material, such as wood or plastic
5. The raising of interest rates _____ the inflation rate.
v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
6. Children seem to _____ chocolate ice cream no matter where they're from.
v. to have a deep love and admiration for someone or something; to regard with great affection and reverence
7. The _____ nerve carries sound signals from the ear to the brain.
adj. of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear
8. _____ dialects typically have relatively few vowels.
n. an influential and high-ranking official, notably in the civil service; the branch of Chinese, which is the official language of China

ANSWERS: 1. constrained, 2. exposition, 3. wondrous, 4. pellet, 5. stabilizes, 6. adore, 7. auditory, 8. Mandarin

9. The _____ bodies in the night sky were beautiful to behold.
adj. relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
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 _____ on a new project.
v. to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
12. The story's _____ could have been better when the author included too many unrelated details.
n. the quality of being logical and consistent
13. The lack of exposure to foreign languages made her a _____ speaker.
adj. being able to speak or use only one language
14. The _____ is a serious threat to the farm's output.
n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
15. He continued his investigation and soon _____ another crime.
v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden
16. He was served with a _____ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.
n. a written legal order or command

ANSWERS: 9. celestial, 10. aft, 11. embarked, 12. coherence, 13. monolingual, 14. moth, 15. uncovered, 16. writ

17. 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
18. In this culture, men are initiated when they reach _____.
- n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
19. She is an _____ technician skilled in performing EEG tests on patients.
- n.* (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions

ANSWERS: 17. neuroscience, 18. puberty, 19. electroencephalography