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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Paul Gilding: The Earth is full | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

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**.

pesky

adj. causing annoyance, irritation, or trouble; persistent in a vexing or troublesome manner

synonym: annoying, irritating, bothersome

(1) dealing with **pesky**, (2) **pesky** problem

The **pesky** fly kept buzzing around my head.

emperor

n. the male ruler of an empire

synonym: ruler, king, dictator

(1) **emperor** of Rome, (2) former **emperor**

The **Emperor** once lived in the vast palace.

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.

esoteric

adj. intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest

synonym : abstruse, recondite, arcane

(1) an **esoteric** religion, (2) **esoteric** tome

The book's content was so **esoteric** only a select few scholars could fully understand it.

delusion

n. a false belief or impression that is firmly held despite evidence to the contrary

synonym : hallucination, illusion, fantasy

(1) grand **delusion**, (2) labor under a **delusion**

He had a **delusion** that he was a millionaire.

hiccup

n. an involuntary movement of the muscles of the diaphragm and chest that causes a sudden intake of breath with a sound similar to a "hiccup"

synonym : hiccough

(1) stop my **hiccup**, (2) the cause of **hiccups**

The **hiccups** lasted for hours and were driving him crazy.

grieve

v. to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died

synonym : mourn, lament, sorrow

(1) **grieve** for loss, (2) **grieve** at the sad news

She **grieved** the loss of her parents.

mistakenly

adv. in a mistaken or incorrect way; wrongly

synonym : incorrectly, erroneously, wrongly

(1) **mistakenly** left his keys, (2) **mistakenly** delete the important file

He **mistakenly** thought the red liquid was juice, but it was paint.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

- riot** *n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
synonym : disturbance, unrest, upheaval
(1) **riot** police, (2) **riot** control gas
The **riots** in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.
- 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.
- limitless** *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
synonym : boundless, infinite, unrestricted
(1) for a **limitless** time, (2) **limitless** potential
The possibilities for scientific discovery are **limitless**.
- 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.
- ration** *n.* a fixed portion or allowance of something, often referring to food, supplies, or resources, that is distributed or allocated to individuals or groups, especially during times of scarcity or in organized systems
synonym : quota, allowance, allocation
(1) food **ration**, (2) fuel **ration**
During the war, families were given a monthly **ration** of essential goods to ensure everyone had access to basic necessities.

grandchild

n. a child of someone's son or daughter

synonym : offspring, descendant, progeny

(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

mobilize

v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

synonym : activate, rally, marshal

(1) **mobilize** cooperation, (2) **mobilize** a stiff joint

The military **mobilized** troops to the border.

paralyze

v. to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel

synonym : immobilize, disable, numb

(1) **paralyze** a city, (2) **paralyze** a person

The venom from the snake bite **paralyzed** his arm.

motto

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

synonym : slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

fundamentalist

n. a person who adheres strictly to the basic principles of any subject or discipline

synonym : extremist, zealot, hardliner

(1) **fundamentalist** church, (2) political **fundamentalist**

He is a religious **fundamentalist** and strictly adheres to the teachings of his faith.

bumble

v. to move or act clumsily or awkwardly; to speak or behave in an inept or confused manner

synonym : stumble, fumble, blunder

(1) **bumble** his way into a high-paying job, (2) **bumble** through his speeches

She tends to **bumble** through her work, making careless errors along the way.

immortality

n. the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
synonym: endless life, timelessness, agelessness

(1) the **immortality** of the soul, (2) achieve **immortality**

Many people believe in the concept of **immortality** and an afterlife.

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

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|---|--|
| 1. the cause of hi___ps | <i>n.</i> an involuntary movement of the muscles of the diaphragm and chest that causes a sudden intake of breath with a sound similar to a "hiccup" |
| 2. em_____r of Rome | <i>n.</i> the male ruler of an empire |
| 3. pa_____ze a person | <i>v.</i> to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel |
| 4. r__t police | <i>n.</i> a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals |
| 5. hu_____g sound | <i>adj.</i> producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee |
| 6. achieve imm_____ty | <i>n.</i> the state or quality of being able to live or last forever |
| 7. gr___e for loss | <i>v.</i> to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died |
| 8. mo_____ze a stiff joint | <i>v.</i> to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose |
| 9. an es_____ic religion | <i>adj.</i> intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest |
| 10. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization | <i>n.</i> a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface |

ANSWERS: 1. hiccup, 2. emperor, 3. paralyze, 4. riot, 5. humming, 6. immortality, 7. grieve, 8. mobilize, 9. esoteric, 10. footprint

- | | | |
|---|-------------|--|
| 11. bu___e his way into a high-paying job | <i>v.</i> | to move or act clumsily or awkwardly; to speak or behave in an inept or confused manner |
| 12. gra_____ld development | <i>n.</i> | a child of someone's son or daughter |
| 13. op_____ne occasion | <i>adj.</i> | suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 14. company mo__o | <i>n.</i> | a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal |
| 15. ind_____us student | <i>adj.</i> | hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort |
| 16. pa_____ze a city | <i>v.</i> | to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel |
| 17. labor under a de_____on | <i>n.</i> | a false belief or impression that is firmly held despite evidence to the contrary |
| 18. an op_____ne remark | <i>adj.</i> | suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 19. the mo__o for safe traffic | <i>n.</i> | a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal |
| 20. hu_____g bird | <i>adj.</i> | producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee |
| 21. m__h larva | <i>n.</i> | an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light |
| 22. fo_____nts in the snow | <i>n.</i> | a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface |
| 23. fuel ra___n | <i>n.</i> | a fixed portion or allowance of something, often referring to food, supplies, or resources, that is distributed or allocated to individuals or groups, especially during times of scarcity or in organized systems |

ANSWERS: 11. bumble, 12. grandchild, 13. opportune, 14. motto, 15. industrious, 16. paralyze, 17. delusion, 18. delusion, 19. motto, 20. humming, 21. moth, 22. footprint, 23. ration

24. mis_____ly left his keys *adv.* in a mistaken or incorrect way; wrongly
25. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
26. dealing with pe__y *adj.* causing annoyance, irritation, or trouble; persistent in a vexing or troublesome manner
27. pe__y problem *adj.* causing annoyance, irritation, or trouble; persistent in a vexing or troublesome manner
28. stop my hi___p *n.* an involuntary movement of the muscles of the diaphragm and chest that causes a sudden intake of breath with a sound similar to a "hiccup"
29. mis_____ly delete the important file *adv.* in a mistaken or incorrect way; wrongly
30. political fun_____ist *n.* a person who adheres strictly to the basic principles of any subject or discipline
31. the imm_____ty of the soul *n.* the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
32. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
33. m__h attracted to the light *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
34. fun_____ist church *n.* a person who adheres strictly to the basic principles of any subject or discipline

ANSWERS: 24. mistakenly, 25. aft, 26. pesky, 27. pesky, 28. hiccup, 29. mistakenly, 30. fundamentalist, 31. immortality, 32. industrious, 33. moth, 34. fundamentalist

35. gr___e at the sad news *v.* to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
36. bu___e through his speeches *v.* to move or act clumsily or awkwardly; to speak or behave in an inept or confused manner
37. former em____r *n.* the male ruler of an empire
38. gra____ld-grandparent relationship *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
39. a_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
40. li____ss potential *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
41. r__t control gas *n.* a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
42. mo____ze cooperation *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
43. es____ic tome *adj.* intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest
44. food ra___n *n.* a fixed portion or allowance of something, often referring to food, supplies, or resources, that is distributed or allocated to individuals or groups, especially during times of scarcity or in organized systems
45. grand de____on *n.* a false belief or impression that is firmly held despite evidence to the contrary

ANSWERS: 35. grieve, 36. bumble, 37. emperor, 38. grandchild, 39. aft, 40. limitless, 41. riot, 42. mobilize, 43. esoteric, 44. ration, 45. delusion

46. for a li_____ss time

adj. without end, limit, or boundary; infinite

ANSWERS: 46. limitless

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The military _____ troops to the border.
 - v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

2. The _____ lasted for hours and were driving him crazy.
 - n. an involuntary movement of the muscles of the diaphragm and chest that causes a sudden intake of breath with a sound similar to a "hiccup"

3. The _____ once lived in the vast palace.
 - n. the male ruler of an empire

4. She tends to _____ through her work, making careless errors along the way.
 - v. to move or act clumsily or awkwardly; to speak or behave in an inept or confused manner

5. 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

6. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon _____.
 - n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

7. He _____ thought the red liquid was juice, but it was paint.
 - adv. in a mistaken or incorrect way; wrongly

8. Many people believe in the concept of _____ and an afterlife.
 - n. the state or quality of being able to live or last forever

ANSWERS: 1. mobilized, 2. hiccups, 3. Emperor, 4. bumble, 5. moth, 6. footprint, 7. mistakenly, 8. immortality

9. The venom from the snake bite _____ his arm.
v. to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
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. He had a _____ that he was a millionaire.
n. a false belief or impression that is firmly held despite evidence to the contrary
12. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
13. The _____ in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.
n. a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
14. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
n. a child of someone's son or daughter
15. He is a religious _____ and strictly adheres to the teachings of his faith.
n. a person who adheres strictly to the basic principles of any subject or discipline
16. She _____ the loss of her parents.
v. to feel or show great sadness or sorrow, especially for someone who has died
17. The _____ fly kept buzzing around my head.
adj. causing annoyance, irritation, or trouble; persistent in a vexing or troublesome manner

ANSWERS: 9. paralyzed, 10. humming, 11. delusion, 12. industrious, 13. riots, 14. grandchild, 15. fundamentalist, 16. grieved, 17. pesky

18. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

19. During the war, families were given a monthly _____ of essential goods to ensure everyone had access to basic necessities.

n. a fixed portion or allowance of something, often referring to food, supplies, or resources, that is distributed or allocated to individuals or groups, especially during times of scarcity or in organized systems

20. The book's content was so _____ only a select few scholars could fully understand it.

adj. intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest

21. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

22. 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

23. The possibilities for scientific discovery are _____.

adj. without end, limit, or boundary; infinite

ANSWERS: 18. motto, 19. ration, 20. esoteric, 21. opportune, 22. aft, 23. limitless