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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Melissa Marshall: Talk nerdy to me | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

wonderland

n. a place or situation that is delightful or enchanting, often characterized by a dreamlike or surreal quality; a reference to the fictional world from Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

synonym: fantasyland, dreamland, fairyland

(1) magical **wonderland**, (2) Alice's **wonderland**

The colorful garden was a **wonderland** of various plants and flowers.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

amaze

v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration

synonym: astound, surprise, stagger

(1) **amaze** and entertain visitors, (2) **amaze** everyone

The magician's tricks **amazed** the audience.

nerd

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers,

mathematics, chess, etc.

synonym : geek, techie, wonk

(1) a computer **nerd**, (2) **nerd** neck

He was, by nature, a cyber **nerd**.

trabecula

n. a small, slender rod or beam, particularly one that forms or supports the structure of a cell or organ or forms part of the framework of a bone

synonym : beam, rod, strut

(1) **trabecula** bone, (2) **trabecula** network

The **trabeculae** in the lung tissue help support the air sacs.

osteoporosis

n. a medical condition characterized by a loss of bone density or mass, resulting in fragile and porous bones that are at increased risk for fractures

(1) **osteoporosis** treatment, (2) **osteoporosis** prevention

As we age, we become more at risk for **osteoporosis**, a condition that weakens the bones in our bodies.

beware

v. to be cautious or careful about something or someone that may cause harm or danger

synonym : heed, caution, alert

(1) **beware** of scams, (2) **beware** of strangers

Please **beware** of the slippery floor after it rains, or you could fall.

jargon

n. specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify

synonym : lingo, vernacular, slang

(1) business **jargon**, (2) scientific **jargon**

The financial industry is notorious for using complicated **jargon** that confuses consumers.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

overwhelm

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

synonym: conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm** opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

subtract

v. to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole

synonym: deduct, take away, remove

(1) **subtract** numbers, (2) **subtract** one from the total

I need to **subtract** the cost of my expenses from my income to see how much money I have left.

Session 2: Spelling

1. scientific ja___n *n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify

2. magical won_____nd *n.* a place or situation that is delightful or enchanting, often characterized by a dreamlike or surreal quality; a reference to the fictional world from Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

3. tr_____la bone *n.* a small, slender rod or beam, particularly one that forms or supports the structure of a cell or organ or forms part of the framework of a bone

4. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

5. be___e of scams *v.* to be cautious or careful about something or someone that may cause harm or danger

6. su_____ct one from the total *v.* to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole

7. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

ANSWERS: 1. jargon, 2. wonderland, 3. trabecula, 4. overwhelm, 5. beware, 6. subtract, 7. overwhelm

8. Alice's won_____nd *n.* a place or situation that is delightful or enchanting, often characterized by a dreamlike or surreal quality; a reference to the fictional world from Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
9. am___e everyone *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
10. un___d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
11. a computer n___d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
12. su_____ct numbers *v.* to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole
13. un___d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
14. be___e of strangers *v.* to be cautious or careful about something or someone that may cause harm or danger
15. am___e and entertain visitors *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
16. tr_____la network *n.* a small, slender rod or beam, particularly one that forms or supports the structure of a cell or organ or forms part of the framework of a bone

ANSWERS: 8. wonderland, 9. amaze, 10. unfold, 11. nerd, 12. subtract, 13. unfold, 14. beware, 15. amaze, 16. trabecula

17. n__d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
18. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
19. ost_____sis treatment *n.* a medical condition characterized by a loss of bone density or mass, resulting in fragile and porous bones that are at increased risk for fractures
20. business ja___n *n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify
21. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
22. ost_____sis prevention *n.* a medical condition characterized by a loss of bone density or mass, resulting in fragile and porous bones that are at increased risk for fractures

ANSWERS: 17. nerd, 18. excite, 19. osteoporosis, 20. jargon, 21. excite, 22. osteoporosis

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The magician's tricks _____ the audience.
v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration

2. I need to _____ the cost of my expenses from my income to see how much money I have left.
v. to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole

3. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

4. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.
v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

5. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

6. He was, by nature, a cyber _____.
n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

7. The _____ in the lung tissue help support the air sacs.
n. a small, slender rod or beam, particularly one that forms or supports the structure of a cell or organ or forms part of the framework of a bone

ANSWERS: 1. amazed, 2. subtract, 3. unfolded, 4. overwhelm, 5. excited, 6. nerd, 7. trabeculae

8. As we age, we become more at risk for _____ a condition that weakens the bones in our bodies.
- n.* a medical condition characterized by a loss of bone density or mass, resulting in fragile and porous bones that are at increased risk for fractures
9. The colorful garden was a _____ of various plants and flowers.
- n.* a place or situation that is delightful or enchanting, often characterized by a dreamlike or surreal quality; a reference to the fictional world from Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
10. Please _____ of the slippery floor after it rains, or you could fall.
- v.* to be cautious or careful about something or someone that may cause harm or danger
11. The financial industry is notorious for using complicated _____ that confuses consumers.
- n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify

ANSWERS: 8. osteoporosis, 9. wonderland, 10. beware, 11. jargon