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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dave Meslin: The antidote to apathy | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

apathy

n. lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm

synonym: affectlessness, dispassion, indifference

(1) **apathy** in the election, (2) political **apathy**

The global economic crisis has led to pervasive **apathy** and powerlessness.

discotheque

n. a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance

synonym: nightclub, dance club, disco

(1) **discotheque** party, (2) **discotheque** scene

He couldn't wait to hit the **discotheque** and dance the night away.

billboard

n. a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads

synonym: hoarding, signboard, advertisement

(1) **billboard** advertising, (2) digital **billboard**

The new **billboard** on the highway promotes a popular vacation destination.

privatize

v. to transfer ownership or control of a business or industry from government or public control to private ownership or control; to make something into a private enterprise or

organization

synonym : deregulate, denationalize

(1) **privatize** post offices, (2) **privatize** healthcare

The government wants to **privatize** specific industries to boost their efficiency.

spectator

n. someone present at an event, such as a sports game, play, or concert, to watch or observe it

synonym : onlooker, observer, viewer

(1) mass **spectator** sport, (2) **spectator** seat

She enjoyed watching the game as a **spectator**.

prophecy

n. a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

synonym : prediction, foretelling, divination

(1) **prophecy** fulfillment, (2) **prophecy** of doom

The fortune teller's **prophecy** that I would meet my soulmate next year has yet to come true.

heroic

adj. courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring

synonym : brave, courageous, daring

(1) a **heroic** poem, (2) **heroic** explorers

The **heroic** actions of individuals are now easily spread worldwide by SNS.

imperfectly

adv. in a faulty or incomplete way

synonym : amiss, insufficiently, clumsily

(1) **imperfectly** developed, (2) **imperfectly** known disease

He created an **imperfectly** shaped torso.

glamorous

adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

synonym : alluring, bewitching, enchanting

(1) **glamorous** movie stars, (2) cast **glamorous** eyes

The south coast is less **glamorous** yet has many clean and appealing hotels.

heroism

n. great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause

synonym: bravery, valor, courage

(1) acts of **heroism**, (2) military **heroism**

The firefighter showed true **heroism** when he rescued the family from the burning building.

regurgitate

v. to bring back partially digested food from the stomach to the mouth; to repeat or recite something without understanding or adding anything new or original

synonym: repeat, echo, restate

(1) **regurgitate** food, (2) **regurgitate** information

The biology student had to **regurgitate** all the material she had learned for the final exam.

cynicism

n. a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest

synonym: distrust, skepticism, pessimism

(1) **cynicism** towards politics, (2) intellectual **cynicism**

His constant **cynicism** made it difficult for him to connect with others.

apathetic

adj. lacking interest, enthusiasm, or concern; indifferent or unconcerned, often in situations where one might be expected to be emotionally engaged or invested

synonym: indifferent, uninterested, unconcerned

(1) **apathetic** attitude, (2) **apathetic** response

She was **apathetic** about the project and didn't care if it succeeded or failed.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym: coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

elector

n. a person who has the right to vote in an election

synonym: voter, constituent, citizen

(1) presidential **elector**, (2) qualified for an **elector**

The **elector** cast their vote for the candidate they believed in.

redefine

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

synonym: reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role

The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

disengage

v. to withdraw or separate oneself from a situation or relationship

synonym: withdraw, separate, detach

(1) **disengage** the clutch, (2) **disengage** socially

He **disengaged** from the conversation and walked away.

dismantle

v. to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

synonym: take apart, demolish, take down

(1) **dismantle** a machine, (2) **dismantle** a system

The old building had to be **dismantled** because it was structurally unsound.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ap_____ic attitude
adj. lacking interest, enthusiasm, or concern; indifferent or unconcerned, often in situations where one might be expected to be emotionally engaged or invested
2. dis_____ue scene
n. a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
3. dis_____ue party
n. a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
4. presidential el_____r
n. a person who has the right to vote in an election
5. di_____le a system
v. to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
6. di_____ge socially
v. to withdraw or separate oneself from a situation or relationship
7. imp_____ly developed
adv. in a faulty or incomplete way
8. qualified for an el_____r
n. a person who has the right to vote in an election
9. bi_____rd advertising
n. a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads
10. di_____ge the clutch
v. to withdraw or separate oneself from a situation or relationship

ANSWERS: 1. apathetic, 2. discotheque, 3. discotheque, 4. elector, 5. dismantle, 6. disengage, 7. imperfectly, 8. elector, 9. billboard, 10. disengage

11. digital bi_____rd *n.* a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads
12. cast gl_____us eyes *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
13. imp_____ly known disease *adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way
14. reg_____te food *v.* to bring back partially digested food from the stomach to the mouth; to repeat or recite something without understanding or adding anything new or original
15. ap___y in the election *n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
16. sp_____or seat *n.* someone present at an event, such as a sports game, play, or concert, to watch or observe it
17. he___c explorers *adj.* courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
18. reg_____te information *v.* to bring back partially digested food from the stomach to the mouth; to repeat or recite something without understanding or adding anything new or original
19. ap_____ic response *adj.* lacking interest, enthusiasm, or concern; indifferent or unconcerned, often in situations where one might be expected to be emotionally engaged or invested

ANSWERS: 11. billboard, 12. glamorous, 13. imperfectly, 14. regurgitate, 15. apathy, 16. spectator, 17. heroic, 18. regurgitate, 19. apathetic

20. pr_____ze post offices *v.* to transfer ownership or control of a business or industry from government or public control to private ownership or control; to make something into a private enterprise or organization
21. re_____ne customer experience *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
22. gl_____us movie stars *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
23. cy_____sm towards politics *n.* a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest
24. political ap____y *n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
25. pr_____cy fulfillment *n.* a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader
26. mass sp_____or sport *n.* someone present at an event, such as a sports game, play, or concert, to watch or observe it
27. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
28. pr_____ze healthcare *v.* to transfer ownership or control of a business or industry from government or public control to private ownership or control; to make something into a private enterprise or organization

ANSWERS: 20. privatize, 21. redefine, 22. glamorous, 23. cynicism, 24. apathy, 25. prophecy, 26. spectator, 27. quitter, 28. privatize

29. di_____le a machine *v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
30. military he_____m *n.* great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause
31. intellectual cy_____sm *n.* a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest
32. a he____c poem *adj.* courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
33. re_____ne our role *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
34. serial qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
35. acts of he_____m *n.* great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause
36. pr_____cy of doom *n.* a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

ANSWERS: 29. dismantle, 30. heroism, 31. cynicism, 32. heroic, 33. redefine, 34. quitter, 35. heroism, 36. prophecy

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ cast their vote for the candidate they believed in.
n. a person who has the right to vote in an election
2. The video telephony application has _____ the way we work.
v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
3. She enjoyed watching the game as a _____.
n. someone present at an event, such as a sports game, play, or concert, to watch or observe it
4. The south coast is less _____ yet has many clean and appealing hotels.
adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
5. She was _____ about the project and didn't care if it succeeded or failed.
adj. lacking interest, enthusiasm, or concern; indifferent or unconcerned, often in situations where one might be expected to be emotionally engaged or invested
6. The biology student had to _____ all the material she had learned for the final exam.
v. to bring back partially digested food from the stomach to the mouth; to repeat or recite something without understanding or adding anything new or original
7. The old building had to be _____ because it was structurally unsound.
v. to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

ANSWERS: 1. elector, 2. redefined, 3. spectator, 4. glamorous, 5. apathetic, 6. regurgitate, 7. dismantled

8. The firefighter showed true _____ when he rescued the family from the burning building.
- n.* great courage or bravery, especially in the face of danger or adversity; the act of sacrificing oneself for a noble cause
9. He couldn't wait to hit the _____ and dance the night away.
- n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
10. The _____ actions of individuals are now easily spread worldwide by SNS.
- adj.* courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
11. The global economic crisis has led to pervasive _____ and powerlessness.
- n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
12. He _____ from the conversation and walked away.
- v.* to withdraw or separate oneself from a situation or relationship
13. His constant _____ made it difficult for him to connect with others.
- n.* a belief or attitude of distrust or skepticism, particularly concerning the motives or integrity of other people; an inclination to believe that people are motivated purely by self-interest
14. The new _____ on the highway promotes a popular vacation destination.
- n.* a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads
15. The fortune teller's _____ that I would meet my soulmate next year has yet to come true.
- n.* a statement or prediction that something will happen in the future, typically one made by a religious leader

ANSWERS: 8. heroism, 9. discotheque, 10. heroic, 11. apathy, 12. disengaged, 13. cynicism, 14. billboard, 15. prophecy

16. The government wants to _____ specific industries to boost their efficiency.
- v.* to transfer ownership or control of a business or industry from government or public control to private ownership or control; to make something into a private enterprise or organization
17. He created an _____ shaped torso.
- adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way
18. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.
- n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

ANSWERS: 16. privatize, 17. imperfectly, 18. quitter