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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Noah Wilson-Rich: Every city needs healthy honey bees | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

beard

n. hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin

synonym: facial hair, whiskers, stubble

(1) a black **beard**, (2) shave my **beard**

He grew a thick **beard** to change his appearance.

honeybee

n. a type of bee that is known for producing honey and pollinating flowers

synonym: apis mellifera

(1) **honeybee** colony, (2) aggressive **honeybee**

The **honeybee** hive is organized into a caste system, with a queen, drones, and workers.

sting

v. to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick

synonym: bite, prick, poke

(1) **sting** me on the arm, (2) **sting** his face

Bees **sting** as a defense mechanism when they feel threatened.

pollination

n. the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of

another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds

synonym : flowering, fertilization, cross-fertilization

(1) **pollination** by insect, (2) the cross- **pollination** of the arts

The **pollination** process is crucial for the growth and reproduction of many plants.

numb

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

synonym : dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

beehive

n. a structure or container where bees live and store their honey

synonym : hive, apiary, honeycomb

(1) disturb a **beehive**, (2) get rid of a **beehive**

The beekeeper checked the **beehive** for any signs of disease.

rooftop

n. the upper surface or cover of a building's roof, often used for recreational or other purposes

synonym : roof, terrace, deck

(1) **rooftop** live, (2) **rooftop** deck

They held the dinner party on the **rooftop** terrace, enjoying the beautiful view of the city.

beekeeper

n. a person who keeps bees, either for their honey or to pollinate crops

synonym : apiarist, apiculturist, honey farmer

(1) **beekeeper** hat, (2) local **beekeeper**

My neighbor is a professional **beekeeper** who sells honey at the local farmers' market.

rundown

n. a brief or summary account of something, usually presented in a list or sequence; a state of disrepair or neglect; (adjective) of or relating to a physical object, typically a building or area, which has not been well-maintained and is in a state of disrepair or decay

synonym: summation, summary, synopsis

(1) a **rundown** of local events, (2) **rundown** building

The boss gave us a quick **rundown** of the new project during the meeting.

alfalfa

n. a plant widely used for animal feed, particularly for horses and livestock, also used in human cuisine as a salad or sandwich ingredient

synonym: lucerne

(1) **alfalfa** sprouts, (2) **alfalfa** hay

The farmer grew a field of **alfalfa** to use as feed for his animals.

pollinator

n. an animal or insect, such as bees, butterflies, birds, etc., that carries pollen from a male part of a flower to a female part of a flower, fertilizing it and allowing it to produce seeds

synonym: fertilizer, pollenizer, pollen carrier

(1) **pollinator** species, (2) beneficial **pollinator**

Bees are important **pollinators** for many crops and plants.

nectar

n. a sweet liquid produced by flowers that attracts and provides food for bees and other insects; any sweet liquid that is enjoyed as a drink or used as a flavoring

synonym: honey, ambrosia, syrup

(1) **nectar** of the gods, (2) fruit **nectar**

The **nectar** of the flowers attracted many bees to the garden.

pollen

n. a fine powder substance consisting of microscopic grains produced by plants that facilitate their reproductive process through the process of pollination

synonym: dust, spores, allergen

(1) **pollen** allergy symptoms, (2) high **pollen** count
My allergies flare up during **pollen** season, making it difficult to breathe.

blossom

n. the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success

synonym : flower, bloom, bud

(1) apple **blossom**, (2) **blossom** garden

The cherry **blossom** trees in the park were in full bloom, creating a beautiful sight.

hive

n. a structure for the reception and habitation of bees, either built by people or made by the bees themselves; a place swarming people

synonym : apiary, swarm, pack

(1) honeybees in **hives**, (2) a **hive** of activity

Bees were buzzing around the **hive**

counterintuitive

adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest

synonym : unreasonable, paradoxical, nonsensical

(1) **counterintuitive** results, (2) **counterintuitive** behavior

The **counterintuitive** nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.

overwinter

v. to survive and remain active or dormant throughout the winter season, often involving a period of decreased activity or hibernation

synonym : hibernate, winter-over, survive the winter

(1) **overwinter** in a greenhouse, (2) **overwinter** in Antarctica

The birds will **overwinter** in warmer climates before returning in the spring.

mite

n. a tiny arachnid-like creature that is related to ticks and spiders and often lives as a parasite on plants or animals

synonym : speck, insect

(1) house dust **mite**, (2) a **mite** of evidence

The **mite** infestation in the old house was a serious problem for the residents.

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym : mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

seaport

n. a harbor or port located on a coast or by a navigable body of water, where ships and boats can dock and load or unload cargo

synonym : harbor, dock, marina

(1) historic **seaport**, (2) fishing **seaport**

The coastal city has a busy **seaport** that handles international trade.

overhear

v. to hear what other people are saying without intending to and their knowledge

synonym : catch, eavesdrop

(1) happen to **overhear** a conversation, (2) accidentally **overheard** their talk

She was inside at the time and **overheard** the conversation.

linden

n. a deciduous tree with heart-shaped leaves and fragrant yellow flowers; commonly planted in urban areas for shade or ornamental purposes

synonym : basswood, lime, tilia

(1) **linden** blossom, (2) **linden** leaves

The **linden** tree in the park is the perfect spot for a picnic.

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**.

probiotic

n. a substance, typically a live bacterium, that is ingested to provide health benefits, particularly in aiding digestion or strengthening the immune system

synonym : probiotic bacteria, beneficial bacteria, microflora

(1) **probiotic** supplement, (2) **probiotic** yogurt

Probiotic-rich foods, such as kefir and sauerkraut, can improve digestive health.

booster

n. something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something

synonym : promoter, supporter, advocate

(1) metabolism **booster**, (2) morale **booster**

The energy drink is marketed as a **booster** to help athletes perform better.

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.

poke

v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger

synonym : prod, jab, push

(1) **poke** around the desk, (2) **poke** a fire

They **poked** fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.

prick

- v. to make a small hole or puncture or to cause a slight, sharp pain; to stimulate or provoke a reaction or response; to use needles to administer a vaccine or medication

synonym : poke, jab, sting

(1) **prick** a balloon, (2) **prick** up her ears

He accidentally **pricked** his finger with the needle.

plaza

- n. a public square, marketplace, or similar open area in a town, especially in Spanish-speaking countries

synonym : park, square, center

(1) main **plaza**, (2) memorial **plaza**

Three young men were busking in the shopping **plaza**.

pollinate

- v. to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others

synonym : fertilize, propagate

(1) **pollinate** plants, (2) **pollinate** fruit trees

Without bees to **pollinate** the flowers, many crops would not exist.

squash

- v. to forcefully crush or flatten something; to suppress, stifle, or defeat an idea or opposition forcefully

synonym : smash, crush, compress

(1) **squash** a package, (2) **squash** a rebellion

I like to **squash** my grapes when making homemade wine.

Session 2: Spelling

1. al____a sprouts
n. a plant widely used for animal feed, particularly for horses and livestock, also used in human cuisine as a salad or sandwich ingredient
2. po____n allergy symptoms
n. a fine powder substance consisting of microscopic grains produced by plants that facilitate their reproductive process through the process of pollination
3. symbiotic fu____s
n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
4. po____te fruit trees
v. to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
5. pr__k a balloon
v. to make a small hole or puncture or to cause a slight, sharp pain; to stimulate or provoke a reaction or response; to use needles to administer a vaccine or medication
6. apple bl____m
n. the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success

ANSWERS: 1. alfalfa, 2. pollen, 3. fungus, 4. pollinate, 5. prick, 6. blossom

7. al____a hay *n.* a plant widely used for animal feed, particularly for horses and livestock, also used in human cuisine as a salad or sandwich ingredient
8. ho____ee colony *n.* a type of bee that is known for producing honey and pollinating flowers
9. ove_____er in a greenhouse *v.* to survive and remain active or dormant throughout the winter season, often involving a period of decreased activity or hibernation
10. p__e around the desk *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
11. pol_____or species *n.* an animal or insect, such as bees, butterflies, birds, etc., that carries pollen from a male part of a flower to a female part of a flower, fertilizing it and allowing it to produce seeds
12. sq____h a rebellion *v.* to forcefully crush or flatten something; to suppress, stifle, or defeat an idea or opposition forcefully
13. a n__b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
14. honeybees in h__es *n.* a structure for the reception and habitation of bees, either built by people or made by the bees themselves; a place swarming people
15. pr_____ic yogurt *n.* a substance, typically a live bacterium, that is ingested to provide health benefits, particularly in aiding digestion or strengthening the immune system

ANSWERS: 7. alfalfa, 8. honeybee, 9. overwinter, 10. poke, 11. pollinator, 12. squash, 13. numb, 14. hive, 15. probiotic

16. historic se____t *n.* a harbor or port located on a coast or by a navigable body of water, where ships and boats can dock and load or unload cargo
17. house dust m__e *n.* a tiny arachnid-like creature that is related to ticks and spiders and often lives as a parasite on plants or animals
18. main pl__a *n.* a public square, marketplace, or similar open area in a town, especially in Spanish-speaking countries
19. po_____te plants *v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
20. memorial pl__a *n.* a public square, marketplace, or similar open area in a town, especially in Spanish-speaking countries
21. fruit ne___r *n.* a sweet liquid produced by flowers that attracts and provides food for bees and other insects; any sweet liquid that is enjoyed as a drink or used as a flavoring
22. disturb a be_____e *n.* a structure or container where bees live and store their honey
23. bl_____m garden *n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success

ANSWERS: 16. seaport, 17. mite, 18. plaza, 19. pollinate, 20. plaza, 21. nectar, 22. beehive, 23. blossom

24. cou_____ive results *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
25. li___n leaves *n.* a deciduous tree with heart-shaped leaves and fragrant yellow flowers; commonly planted in urban areas for shade or ornamental purposes
26. high po___n count *n.* a fine powder substance consisting of microscopic grains produced by plants that facilitate their reproductive process through the process of pollination
27. n__b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
28. shave my be__d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
29. local be_____er *n.* a person who keeps bees, either for their honey or to pollinate crops
30. be_____er hat *n.* a person who keeps bees, either for their honey or to pollinate crops
31. morale bo_____r *n.* something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something
32. li___n blossom *n.* a deciduous tree with heart-shaped leaves and fragrant yellow flowers; commonly planted in urban areas for shade or ornamental purposes
33. sq___h a package *v.* to forcefully crush or flatten something; to suppress, stifle, or defeat an idea or opposition forcefully

ANSWERS: 24. counterintuitive, 25. linden, 26. pollen, 27. numb, 28. beard, 29. beekeeper, 30. beekeeper, 31. booster, 32. linden, 33. squash

34. hu____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
35. hu____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
36. n__d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
37. aggressive ho____ee *n.* a type of bee that is known for producing honey and pollinating flowers
38. happen to ov____ar a conversation *v.* to hear what other people are saying without intending to and their knowledge
39. a ru____n of local events *n.* a brief or summary account of something, usually presented in a list or sequence; a state of disrepair or neglect; (adjective) of or relating to a physical object, typically a building or area, which has not been well-maintained and is in a state of disrepair or decay
40. cou_____ive behavior *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
41. p__e a fire *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
42. st__g his face *v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick

ANSWERS: 34. humming, 35. humming, 36. nerd, 37. honeybee, 38. overhear, 39. rundown, 40. counterintuitive, 41. poke, 42. sting

43. ro____p live *n.* the upper surface or cover of a building's roof, often used for recreational or other purposes
44. a m__e of evidence *n.* a tiny arachnid-like creature that is related to ticks and spiders and often lives as a parasite on plants or animals
45. beneficial pol____or *n.* an animal or insect, such as bees, butterflies, birds, etc., that carries pollen from a male part of a flower to a female part of a flower, fertilizing it and allowing it to produce seeds
46. fu____s infection *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
47. st__g me on the arm *v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
48. metabolism bo____r *n.* something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something
49. a h__e of activity *n.* a structure for the reception and habitation of bees, either built by people or made by the bees themselves; a place swarming people
50. fishing se____t *n.* a harbor or port located on a coast or by a navigable body of water, where ships and boats can dock and load or unload cargo

ANSWERS: 43. rooftop, 44. mite, 45. pollinator, 46. fungus, 47. sting, 48. booster, 49. hive, 50. seaport

51. ro____p deck *n.* the upper surface or cover of a building's roof, often used for recreational or other purposes
52. the cross-pol_____on of the arts *n.* the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds
53. get rid of a be_____e *n.* a structure or container where bees live and store their honey
54. accidentally ov_____ard their talk *v.* to hear what other people are saying without intending to and their knowledge
55. pol_____on by insect *n.* the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds
56. ne____r of the gods *n.* a sweet liquid produced by flowers that attracts and provides food for bees and other insects; any sweet liquid that is enjoyed as a drink or used as a flavoring
57. a computer n__d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
58. ru_____n building *n.* a brief or summary account of something, usually presented in a list or sequence; a state of disrepair or neglect; (adjective) of or relating to a physical object, typically a building or area, which has not been well-maintained and is in a state of disrepair or decay

ANSWERS: 51. rooftop, 52. pollination, 53. beehive, 54. overhear, 55. pollination, 56. nectar, 57. nerd, 58. rundown

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The beekeeper checked the _____ for any signs of disease.
n. a structure or container where bees live and store their honey

2. The _____ process is crucial for the growth and reproduction of many plants.
n. the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds

3. My neighbor is a professional _____ who sells honey at the local farmers' market.
n. a person who keeps bees, either for their honey or to pollinate crops

4. The coastal city has a busy _____ that handles international trade.
n. a harbor or port located on a coast or by a navigable body of water, where ships and boats can dock and load or unload cargo

5. The _____ hive is organized into a caste system, with a queen, drones, and workers.
n. a type of bee that is known for producing honey and pollinating flowers

6. He accidentally _____ his finger with the needle.
v. to make a small hole or puncture or to cause a slight, sharp pain; to stimulate or provoke a reaction or response; to use needles to administer a vaccine or medication

7. My allergies flare up during _____ season, making it difficult to breathe.
n. a fine powder substance consisting of microscopic grains produced by plants that facilitate their reproductive process through the process of pollination

ANSWERS: 1. beehive, 2. pollination, 3. beekeeper, 4. seaport, 5. honeybee, 6. pricked, 7. pollen

8. He grew a thick _____ to change his appearance.
n. hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
9. Bees were buzzing around the _____
n. a structure for the reception and habitation of bees, either built by people or made by the bees themselves; a place swarming people
10. The _____ nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.
adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest
11. The energy drink is marketed as a _____ to help athletes perform better.
n. something or someone that supports, promotes, or enhances; a device or substance that improves the performance or effectiveness of something
12. The boss gave us a quick _____ of the new project during the meeting.
n. a brief or summary account of something, usually presented in a list or sequence; a state of disrepair or neglect; (adjective) of or relating to a physical object, typically a building or area, which has not been well-maintained and is in a state of disrepair or decay
13. Bees _____ as a defense mechanism when they feel threatened.
v. to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
14. The _____ tree in the park is the perfect spot for a picnic.
n. a deciduous tree with heart-shaped leaves and fragrant yellow flowers; commonly planted in urban areas for shade or ornamental purposes
15. The _____ infestation in the old house was a serious problem for the residents.
n. a tiny arachnid-like creature that is related to ticks and spiders and often lives as a parasite on plants or animals

ANSWERS: 8. beard, 9. hive, 10. counterintuitive, 11. booster, 12. rundown, 13. sting, 14. linden, 15. mite

16. The cherry _____ trees in the park were in full bloom, creating a beautiful sight.
- n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success
17. Bees are important _____ for many crops and plants.
- n.* an animal or insect, such as bees, butterflies, birds, etc., that carries pollen from a male part of a flower to a female part of a flower, fertilizing it and allowing it to produce seeds
18. 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.
19. Three young men were busking in the shopping _____.
- n.* a public square, marketplace, or similar open area in a town, especially in Spanish-speaking countries
20. I like to _____ my grapes when making homemade wine.
- v.* to forcefully crush or flatten something; to suppress, stifle, or defeat an idea or opposition forcefully
21. The farmer grew a field of _____ to use as feed for his animals.
- n.* a plant widely used for animal feed, particularly for horses and livestock, also used in human cuisine as a salad or sandwich ingredient
22. Certain types of _____ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.
- n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

ANSWERS: 16. blossom, 17. pollinators, 18. nerd, 19. plaza, 20. squash, 21. alfalfa, 22. fungus

23. Without bees to _____ the flowers, many crops would not exist.
- v. to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
24. She was inside at the time and _____ the conversation.
- v. to hear what other people are saying without intending to and their knowledge
25. They _____ fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.
- v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
26. The _____ of the flowers attracted many bees to the garden.
- n. a sweet liquid produced by flowers that attracts and provides food for bees and other insects; any sweet liquid that is enjoyed as a drink or used as a flavoring
27. They held the dinner party on the _____ terrace, enjoying the beautiful view of the city.
- n. the upper surface or cover of a building's roof, often used for recreational or other purposes
28. My left arm became _____.
- adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
29. 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
30. The birds will _____ in warmer climates before returning in the spring.
- v. to survive and remain active or dormant throughout the winter season, often involving a period of decreased activity or hibernation

ANSWERS: 23. pollinate, 24. overheard, 25. poked, 26. nectar, 27. rooftop, 28. numb, 29. humming, 30. overwinter

31. _____ foods, such as kefir and sauerkraut, can improve digestive health.
- n.* a substance, typically a live bacterium, that is ingested to provide health benefits, particularly in aiding digestion or strengthening the immune system

ANSWERS: 31. Probiotic-rich