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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Colm Kelleher: What is color? | TED Talk

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

or

All Words

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Session 1: Word List

striking

adj. attractive and distinctive enough to draw notice; exceedingly appealing, frequently in an odd manner

synonym : arresting, astonishing, exceptional

(1) **striking** innovation, (2) **striking** evidence

The two plays have many **striking** parallels.

phenomenon

n. something that exists and can be perceptible, especially one that is not fully understood

synonym : marvel, wonder, splendor

(1) natural **phenomenon**, (2) historical **phenomenon**

A rainbow is a natural **phenomenon**.

cork

n. a type of light and buoyant material that comes from the bark of the cork oak tree often used as a stopper for bottles or as a material for insulation or flooring; (verb) to close or seal something with a cork or similar stopper

synonym : stopper, bung, plug

(1) **cork** a bottle, (2) **cork** flooring

She used a **cork** board to display her favorite photographs.

bob

v. to move up and down quickly and repeatedly, often in a short, jerky motion; to cut, trim, or shorten hair, especially by repeatedly snipping with scissors; (noun) a hairstyle in which the hair is cut short and even all around, usually above the shoulders

synonym : bobble, bounce, wag

(1) **bob** a quick curtsy, (2) **bob** on the surface of the water
I need to **bob** my head to the beat of the music.

trace

v. to find or discover someone or something that was lost

synonym : seek, follow, depict

(1) **trace** a telephone call, (2) **trace** back to medieval times
Let's **trace** the origins of some familiar foreign words.

repetition

n. the act of doing or saying something many times

synonym : duplication, iteration, recurrence

(1) **repetition** of the word, (2) habitual **repetition**
Repetition is the mother of all learning.

periodic

adj. happening at regular intervals over a while

synonym : regular, frequent, recurring

(1) the **periodic** blooming of the cherry-blossom,
(2) **periodic** payments

Astronomers are examining whether the **periodic** signals
emanating from this star are artificial.

characteristic

n. a typical feature or quality that can identify, tell apart, or
describe something or somebody

synonym : feature, quality, attribute

(1) stripes **characteristic** of the zebra, (2) my friend's
characteristic laugh

Bananas have their **characteristic** taste and odor.

suppose

v. to think that something is likely to be actual or possible

synonym : guess, assume, presume

(1) **suppose** you're right, (2) **suppose** beforehand
What do you **suppose** the culprit's motive was?

physics

n. the science of matter and energy and their interactions

(1) nuclear **physics**, (2) laws of **physics**
He studied the **physics** of radiation.

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.

measured

adj. done with careful consideration or calculated precision; controlled or regulated in manner or speech; deliberate and thoughtful

synonym: calculated, deliberate, thought-out

(1) **measured** analysis, (2) **measured** tone of voice

Her **measured** response to the criticism showed her ability to remain calm and composed under pressure.

calculate

v. to judge or find out the amount or number of something by using mathematics

synonym: compute, figure, estimate

(1) **calculate** the distance, (2) **calculate** his credit score

He couldn't **calculate** the actual value of the artwork.

frequency

n. an ordered array of colors into which a light beam can be split

synonym: recurrence, repetition, regularity

(1) **frequency** band, (2) high **frequency**

The oscillator hunts for the correct **frequency**.

frequent

adj. happening constantly

synonym: periodic, recurring, routine

(1) **frequent** absence, (2) **frequent** use

His heartaches are less **frequent** now.

detect

v. to find or recognize something, especially something difficult to see, hear, etc.

synonym : catch, observe, notice

(1) **detect** a bad event, (2) **detect** smuggling across borders

The security camera has **detected** four intruders.

observe

v. to watch or notice something carefully, often to gather information or insights; to take note of something or someone; to celebrate or commemorate a special event or occasion

synonym : watch, monitor, scrutinize

(1) **observe** a tradition, (2) **observe** wildlife

It is important to **observe** safety procedures in the workplace to prevent accidents.

purple

adj. of a color intermediate between red and blue

synonym : violet

(1) deep **purple**, (2) **purple** sweet potatoes

The plant has a stunning **purple** blossom.

continuous

adj. occurring or existing without a pause or interruption

synonym : ceaseless, regular, repeated

(1) **continuous** improvement, (2) a **continuous** row of warehouses

The heavy snow has been **continuous** since last morning.

visible

adj. capable of being seen; or open to easy view

synonym : clear, observable, seeable

(1) **visible** stars, (2) **visible** by X-ray

My home is easily **visible** from the shore.

spectrum

n. an ordered array of colors into which a light beam can be split

synonym : range, scale, spread

(1) a broad **spectrum** of opinion, (2) infrared **spectrum**

This device displayed the speech **spectrum** spectrographically.

emit

v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.

synonym: give off, radiate, expel

(1) **emit** a gamma ray, (2) **emit** air pollution

During the unloading, the container box **emits** a clicking sound.

absorb

v. to take in a fluid or other substance gradually

synonym: consume, soak, ingest

(1) **absorb** energy, (2) **absorb** a shock

The sponge **absorbs** water well.

opposition

n. the act of disagreeing or resisting; the state of strong disagreement

synonym: resistance, hostility, antagonism

(1) **opposition** campaign, (2) meet with **opposition**

The **opposition** party strongly disagreed with the government's proposed legislation.

uncomfortable

adj. providing or feeling physical discomfort or slight pain

synonym: comfortless, discomforting, painful

(1) an **uncomfortable** silence, (2) with an **uncomfortable** face

His abusive words made me **uncomfortable**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. 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

2. ab___b energy *v.* to take in a fluid or other substance gradually

3. fr_____nt use *adj.* happening constantly

4. vi_____e stars *adj.* capable of being seen; or open to easy view

5. su_____e you're right *v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible

6. ab___b a shock *v.* to take in a fluid or other substance gradually

7. a broad sp_____um of opinion *n.* an ordered array of colors into which a light beam can be split

8. con_____us improvement *adj.* occurring or existing without a pause or interruption

9. me_____ed analysis *adj.* done with careful consideration or calculated precision; controlled or regulated in manner or speech; deliberate and thoughtful

10. with an unc_____ble face *adj.* providing or feeling physical discomfort or slight pain

ANSWERS: 1. jargon, 2. absorb, 3. frequent, 4. visible, 5. suppose, 6. absorb, 7. spectrum, 8. continuous, 9. measured, 10. uncomfortable

11. su____e beforehand *v.* to think that something is likely to be actual or possible
12. e__t air pollution *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
13. a con_____us row of warehouses *adj.* occurring or existing without a pause or interruption
14. b_b a quick curtsy *v.* to move up and down quickly and repeatedly, often in a short, jerky motion; to cut, trim, or shorten hair, especially by repeatedly snipping with scissors; (noun) a hairstyle in which the hair is cut short and even all around, usually above the shoulders
15. nuclear ph____s *n.* the science of matter and energy and their interactions
16. st_____ng innovation *adj.* attractive and distinctive enough to draw notice; exceedingly appealing, frequently in an odd manner
17. me_____ed tone of voice *adj.* done with careful consideration or calculated precision; controlled or regulated in manner or speech; deliberate and thoughtful
18. pu___e sweet potatoes *adj.* of a color intermediate between red and blue
19. c__k flooring *n.* a type of light and buoyant material that comes from the bark of the cork oak tree often used as a stopper for bottles or as a material for insulation or flooring; (verb) to close or seal something with a cork or similar stopper

ANSWERS: 11. suppose, 12. emit, 13. continuous, 14. bob, 15. physics, 16. striking, 17. measured, 18. purple, 19. cork

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 20. an unc_____ble silence | <i>adj.</i> providing or feeling physical discomfort or slight pain |
| 21. ca_____te the distance | <i>v.</i> to judge or find out the amount or number of something by using mathematics |
| 22. tr__e back to medieval times | <i>v.</i> to find or discover someone or something that was lost |
| 23. my friend's cha_____tic laugh | <i>n.</i> a typical feature or quality that can identify, tell apart, or describe something or somebody |
| 24. stripes cha_____tic of the zebra | <i>n.</i> a typical feature or quality that can identify, tell apart, or describe something or somebody |
| 25. meet with opp_____on | <i>n.</i> the act of disagreeing or resisting; the state of strong disagreement |
| 26. opp_____on campaign | <i>n.</i> the act of disagreeing or resisting; the state of strong disagreement |
| 27. de__t smuggling across borders | <i>v.</i> to find or recognize something, especially something difficult to see, hear, etc. |
| 28. laws of ph_____s | <i>n.</i> the science of matter and energy and their interactions |
| 29. rep_____on of the word | <i>n.</i> the act of doing or saying something many times |
| 30. b_b on the surface of the water | <i>v.</i> to move up and down quickly and repeatedly, often in a short, jerky motion; to cut, trim, or shorten hair, especially by repeatedly snipping with scissors; (noun) a hairstyle in which the hair is cut short and even all around, usually above the shoulders |

ANSWERS: 20. uncomfortable, 21. calculate, 22. trace, 23. characteristic, 24. characteristic, 25. opposition, 26. opposition, 27. detect, 28. physics, 29. repetition, 30. bob

31. natural phe_____on *n.* something that exists and can be perceptible, especially one that is not fully understood
32. de____t a bad event *v.* to find or recognize something, especially something difficult to see, hear, etc.
33. 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
34. tr__e a telephone call *v.* to find or discover someone or something that was lost
35. pe_____ic payments *adj.* happening at regular intervals over a while
36. e__t a gamma ray *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
37. c__k a bottle *n.* a type of light and buoyant material that comes from the bark of the cork oak tree often used as a stopper for bottles or as a material for insulation or flooring; (verb) to close or seal something with a cork or similar stopper
38. fr_____nt absence *adj.* happening constantly
39. deep pu____e *adj.* of a color intermediate between red and blue
40. ca_____te his credit score *v.* to judge or find out the amount or number of something by using mathematics

ANSWERS: 31. phenomenon, 32. detect, 33. jargon, 34. trace, 35. periodic, 36. emit, 37. cork, 38. frequent, 39. purple, 40. calculate

41. habitual rep_____on *n.* the act of doing or saying something many times
42. high fr_____cy *n.* an ordered array of colors into which a light beam can be split
43. historical phe_____on *n.* something that exists and can be perceptible, especially one that is not fully understood
44. st_____ng evidence *adj.* attractive and distinctive enough to draw notice; exceedingly appealing, frequently in an odd manner
45. fr_____cy band *n.* an ordered array of colors into which a light beam can be split
46. ob_____e a tradition *v.* to watch or notice something carefully, often to gather information or insights; to take note of something or someone; to celebrate or commemorate a special event or occasion
47. vi_____e by X-ray *adj.* capable of being seen; or open to easy view
48. infrared sp_____um *n.* an ordered array of colors into which a light beam can be split
49. the pe_____ic blooming of the cherry-blossom *adj.* happening at regular intervals over a while
50. ob_____e wildlife *v.* to watch or notice something carefully, often to gather information or insights; to take note of something or someone; to celebrate or commemorate a special event or occasion

ANSWERS: 41. repetition, 42. frequency, 43. phenomenon, 44. striking, 45. frequency, 46. observe, 47. visible, 48. spectrum, 49. periodic, 50. observe

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Her _____ response to the criticism showed her ability to remain calm and composed under pressure.
adj. done with careful consideration or calculated precision; controlled or regulated in manner or speech; deliberate and thoughtful
2. She used a _____ board to display her favorite photographs.
n. a type of light and buoyant material that comes from the bark of the cork oak tree often used as a stopper for bottles or as a material for insulation or flooring; (verb) to close or seal something with a cork or similar stopper
3. I need to _____ my head to the beat of the music.
v. to move up and down quickly and repeatedly, often in a short, jerky motion; to cut, trim, or shorten hair, especially by repeatedly snipping with scissors; (noun) a hairstyle in which the hair is cut short and even all around, usually above the shoulders
4. A rainbow is a natural _____.
n. something that exists and can be perceptible, especially one that is not fully understood
5. His heartaches are less _____ now.
adj. happening constantly
6. His abusive words made me _____.
adj. providing or feeling physical discomfort or slight pain
7. It is important to _____ safety procedures in the workplace to prevent accidents.
v. to watch or notice something carefully, often to gather information or insights; to take note of something or someone; to celebrate or commemorate a special event or occasion

ANSWERS: 1. measured, 2. cork, 3. bob, 4. phenomenon, 5. frequent, 6. uncomfortable, 7. observe

8. The two plays have many _____ parallels.

adj. attractive and distinctive enough to draw notice; exceedingly appealing, frequently in an odd manner

9. My home is easily _____ from the shore.

adj. capable of being seen; or open to easy view

10. He studied the _____ of radiation.

n. the science of matter and energy and their interactions

11. Astronomers are examining whether the _____ signals emanating from this star are artificial.

adj. happening at regular intervals over a while

12. Let's _____ the origins of some familiar foreign words.

v. to find or discover someone or something that was lost

13. 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

14. What do you _____ the culprit's motive was?

v. to think that something is likely to be actual or possible

15. He couldn't _____ the actual value of the artwork.

v. to judge or find out the amount or number of something by using mathematics

ANSWERS: 8. striking, 9. visible, 10. physics, 11. periodic, 12. trace, 13. jargon, 14. suppose, 15. calculate

16. The _____ party strongly disagreed with the government's proposed legislation.
n. the act of disagreeing or resisting; the state of strong disagreement
17. During the unloading, the container box _____ a clicking sound.
v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
18. The plant has a stunning _____ blossom.
adj. of a color intermediate between red and blue
19. The oscillator hunts for the correct _____.
n. an ordered array of colors into which a light beam can be split
20. This device displayed the speech _____ spectrographically.
n. an ordered array of colors into which a light beam can be split
21. _____ is the mother of all learning.
n. the act of doing or saying something many times
22. The heavy snow has been _____ since last morning.
adj. occurring or existing without a pause or interruption
23. The sponge _____ water well.
v. to take in a fluid or other substance gradually
24. The security camera has _____ four intruders.
v. to find or recognize something, especially something difficult to see, hear, etc.
25. Bananas have their _____ taste and odor.
n. a typical feature or quality that can identify, tell apart, or describe something or somebody

ANSWERS: 16. opposition, 17. emits, 18. purple, 19. frequency, 20. spectrum, 21. Repetition, 22. continuous, 23. absorbs, 24. detected, 25. characteristic

ANSWERS: