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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Abigail Washburn: Building US-China relations ... by banjo | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

passee

adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

synonym : outdated, old-fashioned, antique

(1) **passee** entertainment, (2) **passee** trend

Bell-bottom jeans, once considered **passee** fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.

banjo

n. a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound

(1) famous **banjo** player, (2) **banjo** music

The musician played the five-string **banjo** as part of his folk ensemble.

singe

v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

synonym : sear, char, burn

(1) **singe** off the hair over the flames, (2) **singe** the edges of a fabric

I didn't realize the iron was still hot and **singed** my dress.

shady

adj. characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious

or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight

synonym: shadowy, dubious, questionable

(1) **shady** business, (2) **shady** deal

The tree provided some **shady** relief from the scorching sun.

grove

n. a small group of trees growing closely together

synonym: copse, thicket, underbrush

(1) a bamboo **grove**, (2) citrus **grove**

They walked through the **grove** of trees and admired the natural beauty.

darling

n. a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear

synonym: sweetheart, beloved, dear

(1) have a **darling** baby, (2) medium **darling**

My **darling** child, I love you so much.

ripple

n. a small wave on the surface of a liquid, typically caused by an object falling into it or a slight wind

synonym: wave, undulation, fluctuation

(1) a **ripple** of laughter, (2) **ripple** in the water

Many businesses felt the **ripple** effect of the economy's decline.

obsess

v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

synonym: torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

mammoth

adj. exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene

synonym: huge, large

(1) woolly **mammoth**, (2) a **mammoth** ship

The minister decided to review its **mammoth** public works projects.

bluegrass

n. a genre of American traditional music originating from the Appalachian region, typically characterized by lively tempo, acoustic instruments such as banjo, fiddle, and guitar, and close-harmony singing

(1) **bluegrass** music, (2) **bluegrass** festival

The band played a lively **bluegrass** tune that got everyone dancing.

hallway

n. an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
synonym: foyer, corridor, entrance

(1) the head of a **hallway**, (2) wax a **hallway** floor

He dashed down a **hallway** to a bathroom.

writ

n. a written legal order or command
synonym: legal document, order, legal process

(1) a **writ** of summons, (2) issue a **writ**

He was served with a **writ** of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.

babysitter

n. a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians

synonym: childcare provider, nanny, nurse

(1) need a trustworthy **babysitter**, (2) experienced **babysitter**

Our regular **babysitter** was sick, so we had to find a replacement at the last minute.

roar

v. to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
synonym: bellow, yell, shout

(1) **roar** with laughter, (2) **roar** for more

The lion **roared** loudly, signaling its dominance over the other

animals.

relocate

v. to move or move something or someone to a new place
and build a house or a business there

synonym: emigrate, resettle, migrate

(1) **relocate** a company, (2) **relocate** with a new job

The university **relocated** to campuses several miles away.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. citrus gr__e | <i>n.</i> a small group of trees growing closely together |
| 2. medium da____g | <i>n.</i> a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear |
| 3. a ma____h ship | <i>adj.</i> exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene |
| 4. sh__y business | <i>adj.</i> characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight |
| 5. the head of a ha____y | <i>n.</i> an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open |
| 6. re____te a company | <i>v.</i> to move or move something or someone to a new place and build a house or a business there |
| 7. famous ba__o player | <i>n.</i> a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound |
| 8. re____te with a new job | <i>v.</i> to move or move something or someone to a new place and build a house or a business there |
| 9. bl____ss festival | <i>n.</i> a genre of American traditional music originating from the Appalachian region, typically characterized by lively tempo, acoustic instruments such as banjo, fiddle, and guitar, and close-harmony singing |

ANSWERS: 1. grove, 2. darling, 3. mammoth, 4. shady, 5. hallway, 6. relocate, 7. banjo, 8. relocate, 9. bluegrass

10. pa__e entertainment *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
11. r__r with laughter *v.* to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
12. ob___s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
13. experienced bab____er *n.* a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
14. need a trustworthy bab____er *n.* a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
15. si__e off the hair over the flames *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
16. r__r for more *v.* to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
17. issue a w__t *n.* a written legal order or command
18. a w__t of summons *n.* a written legal order or command
19. have a da____g baby *n.* a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear
20. a bamboo gr__e *n.* a small group of trees growing closely together

ANSWERS: 10. passe, 11. roar, 12. obsess, 13. babysitter, 14. babysitter, 15. singe, 16. roar, 17. writ, 18. writ, 19. darling, 20. grove

21. woolly ma_____h *adj.* exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene
22. bl_____ss music *n.* a genre of American traditional music originating from the Appalachian region, typically characterized by lively tempo, acoustic instruments such as banjo, fiddle, and guitar, and close-harmony singing
23. ba__o music *n.* a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound
24. pa__e trend *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
25. si__e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
26. wax a ha_____y floor *n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
27. ri___e in the water *n.* a small wave on the surface of a liquid, typically caused by an object falling into it or a slight wind
28. sh__y deal *adj.* characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight
29. he is ob___sed with the fear *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

ANSWERS: 21. mammoth, 22. bluegrass, 23. banjo, 24. passe, 25. singe, 26. hallway, 27. ripple, 28. shady, 29. obsess

30. a ri___e of laughter

n. a small wave on the surface of a liquid, typically caused by an object falling into it or a slight wind

ANSWERS: 30. ripple

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The tree provided some _____ relief from the scorching sun.
adj. characterized by darkness or obscurity, often referring to the atmosphere of a place; characterized by suspicious or dishonest behavior or dealings; relating to shade or protection from sunlight
2. Many businesses felt the _____ effect of the economy's decline.
n. a small wave on the surface of a liquid, typically caused by an object falling into it or a slight wind
3. The lion _____ loudly, signaling its dominance over the other animals.
v. to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
4. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and _____ my dress.
v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
5. My _____ child, I love you so much.
n. a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear
6. He dashed down a _____ to a bathroom.
n. an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
7. He was served with a _____ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.
n. a written legal order or command
8. The minister decided to review its _____ public works projects.
adj. exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene

ANSWERS: 1. shady, 2. ripple, 3. roared, 4. singed, 5. darling, 6. hallway, 7. writ, 8. mammoth

9. Our regular _____ was sick, so we had to find a replacement at the last minute.
- n.* a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
10. Bell-bottom jeans, once considered _____ fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.
- adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
11. The university _____ to campuses several miles away.
- v.* to move or move something or someone to a new place and build a house or a business there
12. The musician played the five-string _____ as part of his folk ensemble.
- n.* a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound
13. He's utterly _____ with his promotion.
- v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
14. They walked through the _____ of trees and admired the natural beauty.
- n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
15. The band played a lively _____ tune that got everyone dancing.
- n.* a genre of American traditional music originating from the Appalachian region, typically characterized by lively tempo, acoustic instruments such as banjo, fiddle, and guitar, and close-harmony singing

ANSWERS: 9. babysitter, 10. passe, 11. relocated, 12. banjo, 13. obsessed, 14. grove, 15. bluegrass

ANSWERS: