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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jamil Abu-Wardeh: The Axis of Evil Middle East
Comedy Tour | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- 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.
- uprising** *n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
synonym: revolt, rebellion, insurgency
(1) stage an **uprising**, (2) violent **uprising**
The anti-government **uprising** was successful in overthrowing the regime.
- tirelessly** *adv.* without getting tired or fatigued; persistently, energetically, and continuously working with great effort
synonym: inexhaustibly, indefatigably, unceasingly
(1) dedicated **tirelessly**, (2) **tirelessly** help out
She worked **tirelessly** for hours to finish her project on time.
- aptly** *adv.* in a way that is appropriate or fitting; in a way that demonstrates understanding or intelligence
synonym: appropriately, fittingly, properly
(1) **aptly** named, (2) **aptly** timed

She **aptly** described the complex scientific concept in simple terms everyone could understand.

Arabic

n. the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language

(1) **Arabic** cuisine, (2) **Arabic** language

I'm studying **Arabic** calligraphy as part of my art class.

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.

rot

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

synonym: perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

infidel

n. a person who does not believe in a specific religion or who holds a different religious belief than the one being referred to; a derogatory term used to refer to someone who is seen as not following a particular religious faith

synonym: unbeliever, pagan, gentile

(1) the war against the **infidel**, (2) convert **infidel**

The historical novel portrayed the conflict between the kingdom and the so-called **infidel** invaders from the north.

sitcom

n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format

synonym: comedy, TV show

(1) **sitcom** series, (2) popular **sitcom**

I love to watch **sitcoms** when I need a good laugh.

fanatical

adj. characterized by extreme or excessive devotion or enthusiasm; marked by a relentless, sometimes irrational, dedication or zeal

synonym : zealous, extreme, passionate

(1) **fanatical** patriotism, (2) **fanatical** ideology

The **fanatical** leader had convinced his followers to follow him blindly, regardless of the consequences.

majesty

n. regal or royal dignity; grandeur or greatness

synonym : grandeur, royalty, eminence

(1) morning **majesty**, (2) **majesty** of nature

The king's **majesty** was apparent in his elegant attire and powerful presence.

homegrown

adj. grown or produced locally rather than imported from another area

synonym : indigenous, local, native

(1) **homegrown** talent, (2) **homegrown** produce

The restaurant prides itself on its **homegrown** ingredients sourced from local farms.

headscarf

n. a piece of cloth worn on the head, often for religious or cultural reasons

synonym : hijab, shawl, veil

(1) traditional **headscarf**, (2) **headscarf** cloth

Some women choose to wear a **headscarf** as a symbol of their cultural identity and religious beliefs.

fallacious

adj. containing or based on a false belief or mistaken reasoning; misleading or deceptive in nature

synonym : false, misleading, deceptive

(1) **fallacious** assumption, (2) **fallacious** reasoning

The politician's **fallacious** argument lacked evidence and credibility.

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym : detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity

The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

outsider

n. a person who is not part of a particular group, community, or society; someone who is considered to be on the periphery or outside of established social circles

synonym : stranger, foreigner, alien

(1) **outsider** perspective, (2) **outsider** artist

Living in a foreign country can make you feel like an **outsider** at times.

billionaire

n. a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars

synonym : mega-rich, wealthy, tycoon

(1) Silicon Valley **billionaire**, (2) oil **billionaire**

The self-made **billionaire** donated millions to charity.

fanatic

adj. characterized by excessive enthusiasm or zeal; displaying irrational or extreme devotion to a cause, ideology, or person, often to the point of intolerance or extremism

synonym : zealous, extremist, passionate

(1) **fanatic** about germs, (2) **fanatic** devotion

The **fanatic** supporters of the sports team traveled across the country to watch the match.

whit

n. a very small or insignificant amount or quantity, often used in the phrase "not a whit," meaning not at all

synonym : bit, atom, smidgen

(1) a **whit** of evidence, (2) not a **whit** of difference

His argument had a **whit** of truth, but it was primarily exaggerated.

sheikh

n. a title given to the leader or ruler of an Arab tribe, village, or Islamic community, commonly used in the

Arabian Peninsula and some other parts of the Middle East

synonym : emir, ruler, leader

(1) **sheikh** authority, (2) oil **sheikh**

The Arab **sheikh** welcomed the dignitaries to his palace for a grand feast.

quill

n. a hard, hollow, and spiky feature found on the skin of some animals, such as porcupines, used for protection and puncturing; a pen made from the shaft of a bird feather, used historically for writing

synonym : feather, plume, spike

(1) **quill-like** hairs, (2) porcupine **quill**

The historian carefully examined the **quill** pen to determine its age and origin.

parchment

n. a thin, smooth, durable material made from the skin of a sheep or goat, used in the past as a writing surface

synonym : vellum, sheepskin, goatskin

(1) **parchment** scroll, (2) ancient **parchment**

The ancient scroll was written on **parchment** and carefully preserved in a museum.

banishment

n. the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons

synonym : exile, expulsion, deportation

(1) **banishment** from society, (2) self- **banishment**

The king ordered the **banishment** of the troublemaker from the kingdom.

Session 2: Spelling

1. oil sh___h
n. a title given to the leader or ruler of an Arab tribe, village, or Islamic community, commonly used in the Arabian Peninsula and some other parts of the Middle East
2. ban_____nt from society
n. the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons
3. Ar___c cuisine
n. the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language
4. fa_____c devotion
adj. characterized by excessive enthusiasm or zeal; displaying irrational or extreme devotion to a cause, ideology, or person, often to the point of intolerance or extremism
5. fa_____al patriotism
adj. characterized by extreme or excessive devotion or enthusiasm; marked by a relentless, sometimes irrational, dedication or zeal
6. traditional he_____rf
n. a piece of cloth worn on the head, often for religious or cultural reasons
7. issue a w__t
n. a written legal order or command
8. dedicated tir_____ly
adv. without getting tired or fatigued; persistently, energetically, and continuously working with great effort

ANSWERS: 1. sheikh, 2. banishment, 3. Arabic, 4. fanatic, 5. fanatical, 6. headscarf, 7. writ, 8. tirelessly

9. self-ban_____nt *n.* the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons
10. he_____rf cloth *n.* a piece of cloth worn on the head, often for religious or cultural reasons
11. a w__t of summons *n.* a written legal order or command
12. a w__t of evidence *n.* a very small or insignificant amount or quantity, often used in the phrase "not a whit," meaning not at all
13. ex_____e in anger *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
14. fa_____c about germs *adj.* characterized by excessive enthusiasm or zeal; displaying irrational or extreme devotion to a cause, ideology, or person, often to the point of intolerance or extremism
15. oil bil_____re *n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
16. stage an up_____ng *n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
17. morning ma_____y *n.* regal or royal dignity; grandeur or greatness
18. porcupine qu__l *n.* a hard, hollow, and spiky feature found on the skin of some animals, such as porcupines, used for protection and puncturing; a pen made from the shaft of a bird feather, used historically for writing

ANSWERS: 9. banishment, 10. headscarf, 11. writ, 12. whit, 13. explode, 14. fanatic, 15. billionaire, 16. uprising, 17. majesty, 18. quill

27. fal_____us assumption *adj.* containing or based on a false belief or mistaken reasoning; misleading or deceptive in nature
28. fa_____al ideology *adj.* characterized by extreme or excessive devotion or enthusiasm; marked by a relentless, sometimes irrational, dedication or zeal
29. ou_____er perspective *n.* a person who is not part of a particular group, community, or society; someone who is considered to be on the periphery or outside of established social circles
30. ho_____wn produce *adj.* grown or produced locally rather than imported from another area
31. ma_____y of nature *n.* regal or royal dignity; grandeur or greatness
32. ex_____e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
33. ancient pa_____nt *n.* a thin, smooth, durable material made from the skin of a sheep or goat, used in the past as a writing surface
34. Ar_____c language *n.* the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language
35. ap__y timed *adv.* in a way that is appropriate or fitting; in a way that demonstrates understanding or intelligence

ANSWERS: 27. fallacious, 28. fanatical, 29. outsider, 30. homegrown, 31. majesty, 32. excite, 33. parchment, 34. Arabic, 35. aptly

36. ap__y named *adv.* in a way that is appropriate or fitting; in a way that demonstrates understanding or intelligence
37. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
38. fal_____us reasoning *adj.* containing or based on a false belief or mistaken reasoning; misleading or deceptive in nature
39. qu__l-like hairs *n.* a hard, hollow, and spiky feature found on the skin of some animals, such as porcupines, used for protection and puncturing; a pen made from the shaft of a bird feather, used historically for writing
40. ho_____wn talent *adj.* grown or produced locally rather than imported from another area
41. pa_____nt scroll *n.* a thin, smooth, durable material made from the skin of a sheep or goat, used in the past as a writing surface
42. r_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
43. ou_____er artist *n.* a person who is not part of a particular group, community, or society; someone who is considered to be on the periphery or outside of established social circles
44. not a w__t of difference *n.* a very small or insignificant amount or quantity, often used in the phrase "not a whit," meaning not at all

ANSWERS: 36. aptly, 37. excite, 38. fallacious, 39. quill, 40. homegrown, 41. parchment, 42. rot, 43. outsider, 44. whit

45. tir_____ly help out

adv. without getting tired or fatigued;
persistently, energetically, and
continuously working with great effort

46. popular si___m

n. a television or radio program that
features a continuing cast of characters
in humorous or dramatic situations,
typically presented in a half-hour format

ANSWERS: 45. tirelessly, 46. sitcom

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Living in a foreign country can make you feel like an _____ at times.
n. a person who is not part of a particular group, community, or society; someone who is considered to be on the periphery or outside of established social circles

2. Some women choose to wear a _____ as a symbol of their cultural identity and religious beliefs.
n. a piece of cloth worn on the head, often for religious or cultural reasons

3. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will _____.
v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

4. The historian carefully examined the _____ pen to determine its age and origin.
n. a hard, hollow, and spiky feature found on the skin of some animals, such as porcupines, used for protection and puncturing; a pen made from the shaft of a bird feather, used historically for writing

5. She worked _____ for hours to finish her project on time.
adv. without getting tired or fatigued; persistently, energetically, and continuously working with great effort

6. The king's _____ was apparent in his elegant attire and powerful presence.
n. regal or royal dignity; grandeur or greatness

7. The king ordered the _____ of the troublemaker from the kingdom.
n. the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons

ANSWERS: 1. outsider, 2. headscarf, 3. rot, 4. quill, 5. tirelessly, 6. majesty, 7. banishment

8. She _____ described the complex scientific concept in simple terms everyone could understand.
- adv.* in a way that is appropriate or fitting; in a way that demonstrates understanding or intelligence
9. I'm studying _____ calligraphy as part of my art class.
- n.* the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language
10. The _____ supporters of the sports team traveled across the country to watch the match.
- adj.* characterized by excessive enthusiasm or zeal; displaying irrational or extreme devotion to a cause, ideology, or person, often to the point of intolerance or extremism
11. The ancient scroll was written on _____ and carefully preserved in a museum.
- n.* a thin, smooth, durable material made from the skin of a sheep or goat, used in the past as a writing surface
12. I love to watch _____ when I need a good laugh.
- n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
13. He was served with a _____ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.
- n.* a written legal order or command
14. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.
- v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

ANSWERS: 8. aptly, 9. Arabic, 10. fanatic, 11. parchment, 12. sitcoms, 13. writ, 14. exploded

15. The historical novel portrayed the conflict between the kingdom and the so-called _____ invaders from the north.
- n.* a person who does not believe in a specific religion or who holds a different religious belief than the one being referred to; a derogatory term used to refer to someone who is seen as not following a particular religious faith
16. The self-made _____ donated millions to charity.
- n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
17. The Arab _____ welcomed the dignitaries to his palace for a grand feast.
- n.* a title given to the leader or ruler of an Arab tribe, village, or Islamic community, commonly used in the Arabian Peninsula and some other parts of the Middle East
18. The _____ leader had convinced his followers to follow him blindly, regardless of the consequences.
- adj.* characterized by extreme or excessive devotion or enthusiasm; marked by a relentless, sometimes irrational, dedication or zeal
19. The restaurant prides itself on its _____ ingredients sourced from local farms.
- adj.* grown or produced locally rather than imported from another area
20. The anti-government _____ was successful in overthrowing the regime.
- n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
21. His argument had a _____ of truth, but it was primarily exaggerated.
- n.* a very small or insignificant amount or quantity, often used in the phrase "not a whit," meaning not at all

ANSWERS: 15. infidel, 16. billionaire, 17. sheikh, 18. fanatical, 19. homegrown, 20. uprising, 21. whit

22. The news of her promotion _____ her.

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

23. The politician's _____ argument lacked evidence and credibility.

adj. containing or based on a false belief or mistaken reasoning; misleading or deceptive in nature

ANSWERS: 22. excited, 23. fallacious