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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Clay Shirky: How cognitive surplus will change the world | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

pundit

n. an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue

synonym: expert, commentator, punditry

(1) conservative **pundit**, (2) sports **pundit**

The political **pundit** provided analysis and commentary on the latest election results.

signify

v. to indicate, represent, or communicate something, especially an idea or concept, often through a symbol, gesture, or word

synonym: indicate, express, convey

(1) **signify** importance, (2) actions that **signify** agreement

The red lights on the dashboard **signify** that the car needs maintenance.

blackout

n. a loss of electric power for a general region; a suspension of radio or TV broadcasting; a momentary loss of consciousness

synonym: outage, failure, knockout

(1) media **blackout**, (2) memory **blackout**

The nationwide **blackout** caused widespread power outages and disrupted daily life.

solicit

v. to ask for something, especially in an urgent or pleading manner; to seek something through entreaty

synonym: request, seek, ask

(1) **solicit** advice, (2) **solicit** patronage

The company **solicited** donations from its employees for the charity event.

collate

v. to collect, arrange, and assemble information or material in a specified order or sequence

synonym: compare, correlate, match

(1) **collate** data, (2) **collate** information

I need to **collate** these documents in the correct order before stapling them together.

tacit

adj. understood or implied without being stated outright; unspoken or inferred through context or implication

synonym: implicit, unspoken, inferred

(1) **tacit** support, (2) **tacit** consent

Their friendship was based on a **tacit** understanding of each other's needs and desires.

maneuver

n. a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage

synonym: gimmick, trick, action

(1) political **maneuvers**, (2) made a great **maneuver**

In this class, we learn the basic **maneuver** of the plane.

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.

generosity

n. the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely

synonym: goodness, hospitality, unselfishness

(1) act of **generosity**, (2) boundless **generosity**

He is remembered for his **generosity** and civilization.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

stipulate

v. to specify or require something as a condition of an agreement or arrangement

synonym: specify, require, demand

(1) **stipulate** conditions, (2) **stipulate** the deadline

The contract **stipulates** that the work must be completed within six months.

mediocre

adj. of only average quality; not very good

synonym: average, ordinary, unimpressive

(1) **mediocre** performance, (2) a **mediocre** talent

He was considered a **mediocre** artist compared to others in his field.

throwaway

adj. designed to be used only once and then discarded

synonym: disposable, one-time-use, expendable

(1) **throwaway** item, (2) **throwaway** culture

Throwaway plastic containers are causing a major environmental issue.

tempting

adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

synonym: alluring, attractive, inviting

(1) **tempting** offer, (2) sound very **tempting**

The chocolate cake was too **tempting** for me to resist.

commonsense

adj. exhibiting sound, practical judgment concerning everyday matters; (noun) a basic ability to perceive, understand, and judge in a manner that nearly all people share

synonym : balanced, pragmatic, judicious

(1) **commonsense** scholarship, (2) **commonsense** reforms
Innovative companies often question **commonsense** practices and break them.

untested

adj. not yet tried or proven; lacking in experience or verification; not yet subjected to a test or trial

synonym : untried, new, inexperienced

(1) **untested** hypothesis, (2) **untested** vaccine

The **untested** theory still needs to be reviewed by experts in the field.

errand

n. a short trip that is taken to perform a specified task, such as to take a message or to take or collect something

synonym : task, chore

(1) **errand** boy, (2) run an **errand**

He sent me on an **errand**.

slack

adj. lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude

synonym : loose, lax, floppy

(1) a **slack** rope, (2) **slack** performance

The team's **slack** attitude towards deadlines caused the project to fall behind schedule.

fluctuate

v. to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

synonym : vary, oscillate, sway

(1) **fluctuate** prices, (2) **fluctuate** rapidly

Stock prices **fluctuate** daily based on market demand and supply.

inherit

v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

synonym : obtain, gain, acquire

(1) **inherit** estate, (2) **inherit** ancestral property

After his death, his sons **inherited** his business.

situ

adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

synonym: situational, contextual, circumstantial

(1) ex- **situ** conservation, (2) in- **situ** control

Melanoma in **situ** is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.

envision

v. to imagine or expect what a situation will be like in the future

synonym: anticipate, foresee, picture

(1) **envision** the future, (2) **envision** the project's success

We cannot **envision** her as President.

Session 2: Spelling

1. th_____ay item *adj.* designed to be used only once and then discarded
2. conservative pu____t *n.* an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue
3. so_____t patronage *v.* to ask for something, especially in an urgent or pleading manner; to seek something through entreaty
4. fl_____te rapidly *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
5. fl_____te prices *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
6. st_____te conditions *v.* to specify or require something as a condition of an agreement or arrangement
7. qualified for an el_____r *n.* a person who has the right to vote in an election
8. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
9. in_____t ancestral property *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
10. a me_____re talent *adj.* of only average quality; not very good

ANSWERS: 1. throwaway, 2. pundit, 3. solicit, 4. fluctuate, 5. fluctuate, 6. stipulate, 7. elector, 8. opportune, 9. inherit, 10. mediocre

11. ta__t support *adj.* understood or implied without being stated outright; unspoken or inferred through context or implication
12. te_____ng offer *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
13. act of gen_____ty *n.* the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely
14. en_____on the future *v.* to imagine or expect what a situation will be like in the future
15. actions that si_____y agreement *v.* to indicate, represent, or communicate something, especially an idea or concept, often through a symbol, gesture, or word
16. me_____re performance *adj.* of only average quality; not very good
17. co_____e data *v.* to collect, arrange, and assemble information or material in a specified order or sequence
18. un_____ed hypothesis *adj.* not yet tried or proven; lacking in experience or verification; not yet subjected to a test or trial
19. st_____te the deadline *v.* to specify or require something as a condition of an agreement or arrangement
20. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
21. sl__k performance *adj.* lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude

ANSWERS: 11. tacit, 12. tempting, 13. generosity, 14. envision, 15. signify, 16. mediocre, 17. collate, 18. untested, 19. stipulate, 20. opportune, 21. slack

22. in_____t estate *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
23. boundless gen_____ty *n.* the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely
24. un_____ed vaccine *adj.* not yet tried or proven; lacking in experience or verification; not yet subjected to a test or trial
25. ex-s__u conservation *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
26. er____d boy *n.* a short trip that is taken to perform a specified task, such as to take a message or to take or collect something
27. presidential el_____r *n.* a person who has the right to vote in an election
28. co_____e information *v.* to collect, arrange, and assemble information or material in a specified order or sequence
29. en_____on the project's success *v.* to imagine or expect what a situation will be like in the future
30. ta__t consent *adj.* understood or implied without being stated outright; unspoken or inferred through context or implication
31. media bl_____ut *n.* a loss of electric power for a general region; a suspension of radio or TV broadcasting; a momentary loss of consciousness
32. com_____se scholarship *adj.* exhibiting sound, practical judgment concerning everyday matters; (noun) a basic ability to perceive, understand, and judge in a manner that nearly all people share

ANSWERS: 22. inherit, 23. generosity, 24. untested, 25. situ, 26. errand, 27. elector, 28. collate, 29. envision, 30. tacit, 31. blackout, 32. commonsense

33. run an er___d *n.* a short trip that is taken to perform a specified task, such as to take a message or to take or collect something
34. sound very te____ng *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
35. political ma____ers *n.* a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage
36. a sl__k rope *adj.* lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude
37. memory bl____ut *n.* a loss of electric power for a general region; a suspension of radio or TV broadcasting; a momentary loss of consciousness
38. sports pu___t *n.* an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue
39. si____y importance *v.* to indicate, represent, or communicate something, especially an idea or concept, often through a symbol, gesture, or word
40. in-s__u control *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
41. so____t advice *v.* to ask for something, especially in an urgent or pleading manner; to seek something through entreaty

ANSWERS: 33. errand, 34. tempting, 35. maneuver, 36. slack, 37. blackout, 38. pundit, 39. signify, 40. situ, 41. solicit

42. made a great ma_____er *n.* a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage
43. th_____ay culture *adj.* designed to be used only once and then discarded
44. com_____se reforms *adj.* exhibiting sound, practical judgment concerning everyday matters; (noun) a basic ability to perceive, understand, and judge in a manner that nearly all people share

ANSWERS: 42. maneuver, 43. throwaway, 44. commonsense

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. After his death, his sons _____ his business.
v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
2. Melanoma in _____ is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.
adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
3. In this class, we learn the basic _____ of the plane.
n. a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage
4. Innovative companies often question _____ practices and break them.
adj. exhibiting sound, practical judgment concerning everyday matters; (noun) a basic ability to perceive, understand, and judge in a manner that nearly all people share
5. The contract _____ that the work must be completed within six months.
v. to specify or require something as a condition of an agreement or arrangement
6. The company _____ donations from its employees for the charity event.
v. to ask for something, especially in an urgent or pleading manner; to seek something through entreaty
7. He sent me on an _____.
n. a short trip that is taken to perform a specified task, such as to take a message or to take or collect something

ANSWERS: 1. inherited, 2. situ, 3. maneuver, 4. commonsense, 5. stipulates, 6. solicited, 7. errand

8. He was considered a _____ artist compared to others in his field.
adj. of only average quality; not very good
9. The nationwide _____ caused widespread power outages and disrupted daily life.
n. a loss of electric power for a general region; a suspension of radio or TV broadcasting; a momentary loss of consciousness
10. The red lights on the dashboard _____ that the car needs maintenance.
v. to indicate, represent, or communicate something, especially an idea or concept, often through a symbol, gesture, or word
11. _____ plastic containers are causing a major environmental issue.
adj. designed to be used only once and then discarded
12. The team's _____ attitude towards deadlines caused the project to fall behind schedule.
adj. lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude
13. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
14. He is remembered for his _____ and civilization.
n. the fact or quality of being willing to do kind things or give somebody money, gifts, or time freely
15. I need to _____ these documents in the correct order before stapling them together.
v. to collect, arrange, and assemble information or material in a specified order or sequence

ANSWERS: 8. mediocre, 9. blackout, 10. signify, 11. Throwaway, 12. slack, 13. opportune, 14. generosity, 15. collate

16. We cannot _____ her as President.

v. to imagine or expect what a situation will be like in the future

17. Their friendship was based on a _____ understanding of each other's needs and desires.

adj. understood or implied without being stated outright; unspoken or inferred through context or implication

18. Stock prices _____ daily based on market demand and supply.

v. to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

19. The chocolate cake was too _____ for me to resist.

adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

20. The _____ cast their vote for the candidate they believed in.

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

21. The political _____ provided analysis and commentary on the latest election results.

n. an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue

22. The _____ theory still needs to be reviewed by experts in the field.

adj. not yet tried or proven; lacking in experience or verification; not yet subjected to a test or trial

ANSWERS: 16. envision, 17. tacit, 18. fluctuate, 19. tempting, 20. elector, 21. pundit, 22. untested