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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Joseph Nye: Global power shifts | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

hundredfold

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

(1) rise nearly **hundredfold**, (2) improve **hundredfold**

The development team reported two **hundredfold** increases in performance.

Catholic

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

(1) **catholic** in his tastes, (2) the **Catholic** Church

Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.

nongovernmental

adj. not belonging to or controlled by a government

synonym: private, non-public, non-state

(1) **nongovernmental** aid worker, (2) **nongovernmental** agency

The **nongovernmental** organization works to promote human rights in developing countries.

privatize

v. to transfer ownership or control of a business or industry from government or public control to private ownership or control; to make something into a private enterprise or organization

synonym: deregulate, denationalize

(1) **privatize** post offices, (2) **privatize** healthcare

The government wants to **privatize** specific industries to boost their efficiency.

coercion

n. the use of force, threats, or intimidation to persuade someone to do something against their will; the practice of controlling or manipulating someone through the use of power or authority

synonym: pressure, force, compulsion

(1) **coercion** through force, (2) physical **coercion**

The government used **coercion** to force citizens to comply with pandemic restrictions.

misunderstand

v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

synonym: misinterpret, misperceive, misapprehend

(1) **misunderstand** each other, (2) **misunderstand** entirely about her

You should not **misunderstand** the meaning of freedom.

tectonic

adj. relating to the structure of the Earth's crust and the large-scale processes that occur as a result of movements within it

synonym: seismic, geologic, geological

(1) **tectonic** valleys, (2) a **tectonic** earthquake

The **tectonic** plates shifted, causing an earthquake.

plat

n. a map or a plan that shows the division and layout of land into lots or parcels; a piece of land typically used for building or agricultural purposes

synonym: map, chart, diagram

(1) **plat** book, (2) a former **plat** of farmland

The city planning department keeps detailed **plats** of all the local properties.

mislead

v. to cause someone to believe something that is not true

synonym: misinform, delude, belie

(1) **mislead** him into trusting her, (2) **mislead** the enemy

Our troops pulled back to **mislead** the enemy.

embargo

n. a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment

synonym : ban, prohibition, restriction

(1) oil **embargo**, (2) economic **embargo**

The **embargo** on trade with the neighboring countries severely impacted the local economy.

disastrous

adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

synonym : catastrophic, destructive, fatal

(1) have **disastrous** consequences, (2) absolutely **disastrous** effect

The emission of hazardous substances has **disastrous** effects on the ecology of a region.

surpass

v. to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something

synonym : excel, outdo, outperform

(1) **surpass** imagination, (2) **surpass** \$20 billion in sales

The athlete's record-breaking performance **surpassed** all expectations.

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.

capita

n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

synonym : head, headcount, person

(1) per **capita** sales, (2) the agricultural yield per **capita**
GDP per **capita** shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.

underdeveloped

adj. not fully developed or mature; lacking in progress or advancement

synonym : unadvanced, immature, backward

(1) an **underdeveloped** child, (2) remain **underdeveloped**
Many people in **underdeveloped** countries need clean water or proper healthcare access.

sophistication

n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined

synonym : refinement, culture, elegance

(1) cultural **sophistication**, (2) linguistic **sophistication**
The new technology added a level of **sophistication** to the manufacturing process.

diplomat

n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

synonym : envoy, ambassador, representative

(1) allied **diplomat**, (2) expel a **diplomat**
The senior **diplomat** worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

spartan

adj. of or relating to Sparta (= a prominent city-state in Laconia, in ancient Greece) or its people; showing self-discipline and determination, especially in the face of hardship or adversity

synonym : ascetic, austere, hard

(1) **spartan** training, (2) a **spartan** diet
The soldier lived a **spartan** lifestyle, with few possessions and luxuries.

conflagration

n. a large, destructive fire that spreads quickly and can cause extensive damage; a great and wide-ranging conflict or war

synonym : blaze, holocaust, firestorm

(1) **conflagration** aftermath, (2) urban **conflagration**
The **conflagration** in the forest destroyed many homes and caused much damage.

overreact

v. to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate

synonym: overplay, exaggerate, overstate

(1) **overreact** with anger, (2) **overreact** to the criticism
She **overreacted** to the situation and caused unnecessary stress.

paraphrase

v. to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

synonym: rephrase, reword, reinterpret

(1) **paraphrase** a poem into prose, (2) **paraphrase** the meaning

He **paraphrased** the article in his own words to avoid being accused of plagiarism.

superpower

n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym: great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

transnational

adj. relating to or involving activities, organizations, or individuals that cross national boundaries or operate in multiple countries; having a presence or influence in multiple countries or regions

synonym: international, global, cross-border

(1) **transnational** migration, (2) **transnational** crime

The company operates as a **transnational** corporation, with offices and operations in multiple countries.

pandemic

n. an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

synonym : outbreak

(1) flu **pandemic**, (2) global **pandemic**

They fear a **pandemic** of a new type of virus.

chaotic

adj. without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing

synonym : disorderly, cluttered, topsy-turvy

(1) the **chaotic** economic situation, (2) **chaotic** theory

Change is also occurring in Turkey as a result of **chaotic** reform.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

synonym : authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pa__e trend
adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
2. linguistic sop_____ion
n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
3. tra_____nal migration
adj. relating to or involving activities, organizations, or individuals that cross national boundaries or operate in multiple countries; having a presence or influence in multiple countries or regions
4. co_____on through force
n. the use of force, threats, or intimidation to persuade someone to do something against their will; the practice of controlling or manipulating someone through the use of power or authority
5. ch_____c theory
adj. without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing
6. cultural sop_____ion
n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
7. te_____ic valleys
adj. relating to the structure of the Earth's crust and the large-scale processes that occur as a result of movements within it

ANSWERS: 1. passe, 2. sophistication, 3. transnational, 4. coercion, 5. chaotic, 6. sophistication, 7. tectonic

8. the Ca_____ic Church *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
9. par_____se the meaning *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning
10. oil em_____o *n.* a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment
11. non_____tal aid worker *adj.* not belonging to or controlled by a government
12. per ca___a sales *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
13. expel a di_____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
14. mi_____d the enemy *v.* to cause someone to believe something that is not true
15. pr_____ze healthcare *v.* to transfer ownership or control of a business or industry from government or public control to private ownership or control; to make something into a private enterprise or organization

ANSWERS: 8. Catholic, 9. paraphrase, 10. embargo, 11. nongovernmental, 12. capita, 13. diplomat, 14. mislead, 15. privatize

16. ov_____ct to the criticism *v.* to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate
17. economic em_____o *n.* a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment
18. tra_____nal crime *adj.* relating to or involving activities, organizations, or individuals that cross national boundaries or operate in multiple countries; having a presence or influence in multiple countries or regions
19. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
20. ca_____ic in his tastes *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
21. em_____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
22. a sp_____n diet *adj.* of or relating to Sparta (= a prominent city-state in Laconia, in ancient Greece) or its people; showing self-discipline and determination, especially in the face of hardship or adversity
23. the ch_____c economic situation *adj.* without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing

ANSWERS: 16. overreact, 17. embargo, 18. transnational, 19. empower, 20. Catholic, 21. empower, 22. spartan, 23. chaotic

24. improve hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
25. su_____s imagination *v.* to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something
26. rise nearly hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
27. a former p__t of farmland *n.* a map or a plan that shows the division and layout of land into lots or parcels; a piece of land typically used for building or agricultural purposes
28. mis_____and each other *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
29. global pa_____ic *n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
30. a te_____ic earthquake *adj.* relating to the structure of the Earth's crust and the large-scale processes that occur as a result of movements within it
31. sup_____er leader *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
32. sp_____n training *adj.* of or relating to Sparta (= a prominent city-state in Laconia, in ancient Greece) or its people; showing self-discipline and determination, especially in the face of hardship or adversity
33. have dis_____us consequences *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

ANSWERS: 24. hundredfold, 25. surpass, 26. hundredfold, 27. plat, 28. misunderstand, 29. pandemic, 30. tectonic, 31. superpower, 32. spartan, 33. disastrous

34. an und_____ped child *adj.* not fully developed or mature; lacking in progress or advancement
35. physical co_____on *n.* the use of force, threats, or intimidation to persuade someone to do something against their will; the practice of controlling or manipulating someone through the use of power or authority
36. urban con_____ion *n.* a large, destructive fire that spreads quickly and can cause extensive damage; a great and wide-ranging conflict or war
37. mi_____d him into trusting her *v.* to cause someone to believe something that is not true
38. pr_____ze post offices *v.* to transfer ownership or control of a business or industry from government or public control to private ownership or control; to make something into a private enterprise or organization
39. con_____ion aftermath *n.* a large, destructive fire that spreads quickly and can cause extensive damage; a great and wide-ranging conflict or war
40. absolutely dis_____us effect *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
41. flu pa_____ic *n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
42. pa__e entertainment *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
43. mis_____and entirely about her *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

ANSWERS: 34. underdeveloped, 35. coercion, 36. conflagration, 37. mislead, 38. privatize, 39. conflagration, 40. disastrous, 41. pandemic, 42. passe, 43. misunderstand

44. remain und_____ped *adj.* not fully developed or mature; lacking in progress or advancement
45. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
46. non_____tal agency *adj.* not belonging to or controlled by a government
47. the agricultural yield per ca___a *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
48. allied di_____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
49. par_____se a poem into prose *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning
50. su_____s \$20 billion in sales *v.* to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something
51. ov_____ct with anger *v.* to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate
52. p__t book *n.* a map or a plan that shows the division and layout of land into lots or parcels; a piece of land typically used for building or agricultural purposes

ANSWERS: 44. underdeveloped, 45. superpower, 46. nongovernmental, 47. capita, 48. diplomat, 49. paraphrase, 50. surpass, 51. overreact, 52. plat

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ plates shifted, causing an earthquake.
adj. relating to the structure of the Earth's crust and the large-scale processes that occur as a result of movements within it
2. The government used _____ to force citizens to comply with pandemic restrictions.
n. the use of force, threats, or intimidation to persuade someone to do something against their will; the practice of controlling or manipulating someone through the use of power or authority
3. The _____ in the forest destroyed many homes and caused much damage.
n. a large, destructive fire that spreads quickly and can cause extensive damage; a great and wide-ranging conflict or war
4. The _____ organization works to promote human rights in developing countries.
adj. not belonging to or controlled by a government
5. 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
6. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

ANSWERS: 1. tectonic, 2. coercion, 3. conflagration, 4. nongovernmental, 5. passe, 6. empowered

7. She _____ to the situation and caused unnecessary stress.
v. to react more strongly or excessively than is necessary or appropriate
8. The senior _____ worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.
n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
9. The city planning department keeps detailed _____ of all the local properties.
n. a map or a plan that shows the division and layout of land into lots or parcels; a piece of land typically used for building or agricultural purposes
10. Sociologists are now interested in _____ world peace.
adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
11. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.
n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
12. The athlete's record-breaking performance _____ all expectations.
v. to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something
13. The new technology added a level of _____ to the manufacturing process.
n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined

ANSWERS: 7. overreacted, 8. diplomat, 9. plats, 10. catholic, 11. superpower, 12. surpassed, 13. sophistication

14. The emission of hazardous substances has _____ effects on the ecology of a region.

adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

15. Our troops pulled back to _____ the enemy.

v. to cause someone to believe something that is not true

16. The company operates as a _____ corporation, with offices and operations in multiple countries.

adj. relating to or involving activities, organizations, or individuals that cross national boundaries or operate in multiple countries; having a presence or influence in multiple countries or regions

17. The soldier lived a _____ lifestyle, with few possessions and luxuries.

adj. of or relating to Sparta (= a prominent city-state in Laconia, in ancient Greece) or its people; showing self-discipline and determination, especially in the face of hardship or adversity

18. GDP per _____ shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.

n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

19. The government wants to _____ specific industries to boost their efficiency.

v. to transfer ownership or control of a business or industry from government or public control to private ownership or control; to make something into a private enterprise or organization

20. The _____ on trade with the neighboring countries severely impacted the local economy.

n. a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment

ANSWERS: 14. disastrous, 15. mislead, 16. transnational, 17. spartan, 18. capita, 19. privatize, 20. embargo

21. He _____ the article in his own words to avoid being accused of plagiarism.

- v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

22. Many people in _____ countries need clean water or proper healthcare access.

- adj.* not fully developed or mature; lacking in progress or advancement

23. They fear a _____ of a new type of virus.

- n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

24. Change is also occurring in Turkey as a result of _____ reform.

- adj.* without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing

25. You should not _____ the meaning of freedom.

- v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

26. The development team reported two _____ increases in performance.

- adj.* a hundred times as great or as much

ANSWERS: 21. paraphrased, 22. underdeveloped, 23. pandemic, 24. chaotic, 25. misunderstand, 26. hundredfold