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Clay Shirky: How social media can make history |
TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

lookout

n. a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence

synonym: watchman, sentinel, guard

(1) **lookout** team, (2) on the **lookout** for danger

The **lookout** tower provided a clear view of the surrounding area.

sanctity

n. the quality of being sacred, holy, or blessed; the state of being pure, untainted, or inviolable; the ultimate importance or reverence attributed to something

synonym: holiness, sacredness, purity

(1) **sanctity** of life, (2) violate the **sanctity**

The **sanctity** of human life is a fundamental principle of many religions.

expressive

adj. capable of conveying thoughts, emotions, or ideas effectively; showing or revealing one's thoughts or feelings clearly and vividly; characterized by a high degree of expressiveness

synonym: meaningful, communicative, eloquent

(1) **expressive** artwork, (2) **expressive** language

Her **expressive** dance moves captivated the audience during

the performance.

telegraph

n. a method of long-distance transmission of messages by electrical or radio signals

(1) answer by **telegraph**, (2) **telegraph** wires

The **telegraph** service was interrupted for a while.

asymmetric

adj. lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement

synonym: uneven, lopsided, unbalanced

(1) **asymmetric** warfare, (2) **asymmetric** information

The **asymmetric** design of the building made it stand out in the city skyline.

peacock

n. a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family

(1) as proud as a **peacock**, (2) male **peacock**

The vibrant feathers of the **peacock** made it stand out in the garden.

twit

n. a silly or foolish person; someone regarded as annoying or irritating

synonym: fool, idiot, imbecile

(1) celebrity **twit**, (2) neighborhood **twit**

Please ignore that **twit** on social media; their opinions are irrelevant.

quake

v. to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time

synonym: shake, trembler, tremor

(1) **quake** in his boots, (2) **quake** with cold

The earth began to **quake**, and he knew he had to leave the building immediately.

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.

wildfire

n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope

synonym: blaze, bonfire, flame

(1) **wildfire** spread, (2) arson-caused **wildfire**

The **wildfire** destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.

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.

kitten

n. a young cat

synonym: catling, kitling, puss

(1) **kitten** formula, (2) newborn **kitten**

The **kitten's** fur was so fluffy that it looked like it was always moving.

treadmill

n. a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a moving belt on which the user walks, jogs, or runs in place; a monotonous, repetitive task or activity that feels like it is going nowhere, much like a person walking on a treadmill

synonym: exercise machine, routine

(1) **treadmill** workout, (2) nonstop **treadmill**

I like to watch TV while running on the **treadmill** to pass the time.

bribe

v. to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other

inducements

synonym : graft, corrupt

(1) **bribe** a politician, (2) **bribe** him with food

He tries to **bribe** the ship's captain to export illegal products.

prostrate

adj. lying flat, face down, or completely stretched out on the ground; physically or emotionally incapacitated or overcome; completely submissive or humble

synonym : lying, prone, flat

(1) **prostrate** position, (2) **prostrate** form of prayer

After a long day of work, he lay **prostrate** on the couch, completely exhausted.

placate

v. to make someone less angry or hostile; to calm or soothe someone upset or agitated

synonym : appease, pacify, soothe

(1) **placate** anger, (2) **placate** my fears

The manager tried to **placate** the angry customer by offering a refund.

radicalize

v. to cause or become more radical in one's beliefs or actions; to adopt or promote more extreme or uncompromising ideas or practices

synonym : transform, alter

(1) **radicalize** religious groups, (2) **radicalize** ideology

The extremist group aims to **radicalize** young people through its propaganda.

sparse

adj. only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area

synonym : scarce, exiguous, infrequent

(1) a **sparse** population, (2) **sparse** snowfall

There is a **sparse** area between galaxies.

spigot

n. a valve or faucet used to control the flow of liquid from a container or pipe

synonym :

faucet, tap, valve

(1) shut off the **spigot**, (2) open the **spigot**

The **spigot** on the outdoor faucet was leaking and needed to be fixed.

censor

n. a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information

synonym: suppressor, scrutineer, examiner

(1) **censor** a book, (2) **censor** a TV program

The newspaper editor decided to **censor** the controversial headline to avoid backlash.

ubiquitous

adj. being or existing everywhere at once

synonym: universal, omnipresent, everywhere

(1) **ubiquitous** computing, (2) **ubiquitous** across ecosystems

Sugar is **ubiquitous** in food.

freaky

adj. strange or unusual in a way that is frightening or unsettling

synonym: weird, strange, unusual

(1) **freaky** accident, (2) **freaky-deaky**

The **freaky** clown at the haunted house scared the children.

imaginative

adj. having or showing new and creative ideas

synonym: creative, innovative, inventive

(1) capable of **imaginative** creation, (2) **imaginative** as a child

She is a hard worker but not very **imaginative**.

berserk

adj. in a state of wild, frenzied, or unrestrained behavior; acting or behaving in a violent, irrational, or uncontrollable manner

synonym:

crazed, frenzied, wild

(1) run **berserk**, (2) a **berserk** rage

The fans went **berserk** when their team scored the winning goal in the game's final seconds.

senator

n. a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate

synonym: legislator, politician, representative

(1) junior **senator**, (2) **senator** term

The hawkish **senator** gave a speech on the new bill in the Senate.

convene

v. to come or bring together a group of people for a meeting or activity

synonym: assemble, gather, summon

(1) **convene** a press conference, (2) **convene** the council

The parliament will **convene** at 1 p.m. tomorrow.

Session 2: Spelling

1. tr_____ll workout
n. a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a moving belt on which the user walks, jogs, or runs in place; a monotonous, repetitive task or activity that feels like it is going nowhere, much like a person walking on a treadmill
2. wi_____re spread
n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
3. on the lo_____t for danger
n. a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence
4. neighborhood t__t
n. a silly or foolish person; someone regarded as annoying or irritating
5. pl_____e my fears
v. to make someone less angry or hostile; to calm or soothe someone upset or agitated
6. pr_____te form of prayer
adj. lying flat, face down, or completely stretched out on the ground; physically or emotionally incapacitated or overcome; completely submissive or humble
7. pl_____e anger
v. to make someone less angry or hostile; to calm or soothe someone upset or agitated
8. shut off the sp____t
n. a valve or faucet used to control the flow of liquid from a container or pipe

ANSWERS: 1. treadmill, 2. wildfire, 3. lookout, 4. twit, 5. placate, 6. prostrate, 7. placate, 8. spigot

9. rad_____ze ideology v. to cause or become more radical in one's beliefs or actions; to adopt or promote more extreme or uncompromising ideas or practices
10. qu__e in his boots v. to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time
11. ce___r a book n. a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information
12. ubi_____us across ecosystems *adj.* being or existing everywhere at once
13. capable of ima_____ve creation *adj.* having or showing new and creative ideas
14. se_____r term n. a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate
15. a sp___e population *adj.* only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area
16. br__e him with food v. to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements
17. as proud as a pe_____k n. a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
18. ima_____ve as a child *adj.* having or showing new and creative ideas
19. sp___e snowfall *adj.* only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area

ANSWERS: 9. radicalize, 10. quake, 11. censor, 12. ubiquitous, 13. imaginative, 14. senator, 15. sparse, 16. bribe, 17. peacock, 18. imaginative, 19. sparse

20. asy_____ic information *adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement
21. fr___y-deaky *adj.* strange or unusual in a way that is frightening or unsettling
22. rad_____ze religious groups *v.* to cause or become more radical in one's beliefs or actions; to adopt or promote more extreme or uncompromising ideas or practices
23. junior se_____r *n.* a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate
24. run be_____k *adj.* in a state of wild, frenzied, or unrestrained behavior; acting or behaving in a violent, irrational, or uncontrollable manner
25. ki___n formula *n.* a young cat
26. male pe_____k *n.* a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
27. asy_____ic warfare *adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement
28. pr_____te position *adj.* lying flat, face down, or completely stretched out on the ground; physically or emotionally incapacitated or overcome; completely submissive or humble
29. open the sp___t *n.* a valve or faucet used to control the flow of liquid from a container or pipe

ANSWERS: 20. asymmetric, 21. freaky, 22. radicalize, 23. senator, 24. berserk, 25. kitten, 26. peacock, 27. asymmetric, 28. prostrate, 29. spigot

30. ubi_____us computing *adj.* being or existing everywhere at once
31. a be_____k rage *adj.* in a state of wild, frenzied, or unrestrained behavior; acting or behaving in a violent, irrational, or uncontrollable manner
32. qu__e with cold *v.* to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time
33. nonstop tr_____ll *n.* a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a moving belt on which the user walks, jogs, or runs in place; a monotonous, repetitive task or activity that feels like it is going nowhere, much like a person walking on a treadmill
34. answer by te_____ph *n.* a method of long-distance transmission of messages by electrical or radio signals
35. ce____r a TV program *n.* a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information
36. exp_____ve language *adj.* capable of conveying thoughts, emotions, or ideas effectively; showing or revealing one's thoughts or feelings clearly and vividly; characterized by a high degree of expressiveness
37. celebrity t__t *n.* a silly or foolish person; someone regarded as annoying or irritating

ANSWERS: 30. ubiquitous, 31. berserk, 32. quake, 33. treadmill, 34. telegraph, 35. censor, 36. expressive, 37. twit

38. sa____ty of life *n.* the quality of being sacred, holy, or blessed; the state of being pure, untainted, or inviolable; the ultimate importance or reverence attributed to something
39. 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
40. lo____t team *n.* a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence
41. co____e the council *v.* to come or bring together a group of people for a meeting or activity
42. te____ph wires *n.* a method of long-distance transmission of messages by electrical or radio signals
43. arson-caused wi____re *n.* a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
44. br__e a politician *v.* to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements
45. violate the sa____ty *n.* the quality of being sacred, holy, or blessed; the state of being pure, untainted, or inviolable; the ultimate importance or reverence attributed to something
46. newborn ki____n *n.* a young cat

ANSWERS: 38. sanctity, 39. ripple, 40. lookout, 41. convene, 42. telegraph, 43. wildfire, 44. bribe, 45. sanctity, 46. kitten

47. 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
48. co_____e data *v.* to collect, arrange, and assemble information or material in a specified order or sequence
49. co_____e a press conference *v.* to come or bring together a group of people for a meeting or activity
50. fr___y accident *adj.* strange or unusual in a way that is frightening or unsettling
51. co_____e information *v.* to collect, arrange, and assemble information or material in a specified order or sequence
52. exp_____ve artwork *adj.* capable of conveying thoughts, emotions, or ideas effectively; showing or revealing one's thoughts or feelings clearly and vividly; characterized by a high degree of expressiveness

ANSWERS: 47. ripple, 48. collate, 49. convene, 50. freaky, 51. collate, 52. expressive

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The vibrant feathers of the _____ made it stand out in the garden.
n. a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
2. The extremist group aims to _____ young people through its propaganda.
v. to cause or become more radical in one's beliefs or actions; to adopt or promote more extreme or uncompromising ideas or practices
3. The manager tried to _____ the angry customer by offering a refund.
v. to make someone less angry or hostile; to calm or soothe someone upset or agitated
4. The _____ clown at the haunted house scared the children.
adj. strange or unusual in a way that is frightening or unsettling
5. The fans went _____ when their team scored the winning goal in the game's final seconds.
adj. in a state of wild, frenzied, or unrestrained behavior; acting or behaving in a violent, irrational, or uncontrollable manner
6. The earth began to _____ and he knew he had to leave the building immediately.
v. to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time
7. The hawkish _____ gave a speech on the new bill in the Senate.
n. a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate
8. After a long day of work, he lay _____ on the couch, completely exhausted.
adj. lying flat, face down, or completely stretched out on the ground; physically or emotionally incapacitated or overcome; completely submissive or humble

ANSWERS: 1. peacock, 2. radicalize, 3. placate, 4. freaky, 5. berserk, 6. quake, 7. senator, 8. prostrate

9. 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
10. The _____ design of the building made it stand out in the city skyline.
- adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement
11. The _____ service was interrupted for a while.
- n.* a method of long-distance transmission of messages by electrical or radio signals
12. The _____ destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.
- n.* a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
13. I like to watch TV while running on the _____ to pass the time.
- n.* a piece of exercise equipment consisting of a moving belt on which the user walks, jogs, or runs in place; a monotonous, repetitive task or activity that feels like it is going nowhere, much like a person walking on a treadmill
14. She is a hard worker but not very _____.
- adj.* having or showing new and creative ideas
15. The newspaper editor decided to _____ the controversial headline to avoid backlash.
- n.* a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information

ANSWERS: 9. collate, 10. asymmetric, 11. telegraph, 12. wildfire, 13. treadmill, 14. imaginative, 15. censor

16. There is a _____ area between galaxies.

adj. only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area

17. The _____ tower provided a clear view of the surrounding area.

n. a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence

18. The _____ of human life is a fundamental principle of many religions.

n. the quality of being sacred, holy, or blessed; the state of being pure, untainted, or inviolable; the ultimate importance or reverence attributed to something

19. The parliament will _____ at 1 p.m. tomorrow.

v. to come or bring together a group of people for a meeting or activity

20. Sugar is _____ in food.

adj. being or existing everywhere at once

21. Her _____ dance moves captivated the audience during the performance.

adj. capable of conveying thoughts, emotions, or ideas effectively; showing or revealing one's thoughts or feelings clearly and vividly; characterized by a high degree of expressiveness

22. The _____ fur was so fluffy that it looked like it was always moving.

n. a young cat

23. He tries to _____ the ship's captain to export illegal products.

v. to try to make someone do something to gain one's favors or influence by giving a gift of money or other inducements

ANSWERS: 16. sparse, 17. lookout, 18. sanctity, 19. convene, 20. ubiquitous, 21. expressive, 22. kitten's, 23. bribe

24. Please ignore that _____ on social media; their opinions are irrelevant.

n. a silly or foolish person; someone regarded as annoying or irritating

25. The _____ on the outdoor faucet was leaking and needed to be fixed.

n. a valve or faucet used to control the flow of liquid from a container or pipe

26. 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

ANSWERS: 24. twit, 25. spigot, 26. ripple