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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dan Finkel: Can you solve the cursed dice riddle? |

TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym : buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

bounty

n. a reward offered for capturing or killing someone or for accomplishing a specific task

synonym : reward, premium, recompense

(1) cash **bounty**, (2) a **bounty** on exports

The **bounty** hunter was hired to capture the notorious criminal and bring him to justice.

self-respect

n. a feeling of being proud of and confident in yourself

synonym : dignity, pride, self-esteem

(1) lacks a sense of **self-respect**, (2) wound his **self-respect**

Her failure resulted in a loss of her **self-respect**.

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**.

trickster

n. a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology

synonym: swindler, cheat, deceiver

(1) **trickster** character, (2) cunning **trickster**

The con artist was known as a notorious **trickster** who scammed people out of their money.

invade

v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

synonym: intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

affix

v. to attach or add something to something else

synonym: attach, paste, stick

(1) **affix** a label, (2) **affix** a seal to a document

She **affixed** a stamp to the letter before mailing it.

numb

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

synonym: dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

avert

v. to prevent something dangerous or undesirable from happening

synonym: discourage, prevent, deter

(1) **avert** disaster, (2) **avert** a strike

The dam systematically releases large amounts of water to **avert** flooding during the rainy season

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. begin to r_t | <i>v.</i> to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually |
| 2. lacks a sense of sel_____ect | <i>n.</i> a feeling of being proud of and confident in yourself |
| 3. a bo___y on exports | <i>n.</i> a reward offered for capturing or killing someone or for accomplishing a specific task |
| 4. in___e other tissues | <i>v.</i> to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation |
| 5. cash bo___y | <i>n.</i> a reward offered for capturing or killing someone or for accomplishing a specific task |
| 6. af__x a seal to a document | <i>v.</i> to attach or add something to something else |
| 7. af__x a label | <i>v.</i> to attach or add something to something else |
| 8. cunning tr_____er | <i>n.</i> a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology |
| 9. wound his sel_____ect | <i>n.</i> a feeling of being proud of and confident in yourself |
| 10. tr_____er character | <i>n.</i> a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology |
| 11. n__b with cold | <i>adj.</i> unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity |

ANSWERS: 1. rot, 2. self-respect, 3. bounty, 4. invade, 5. bounty, 6. affix, 7. affix, 8. trickster, 9. self-respect, 10. trickster, 11. numb

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will _____.
v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
2. The dam systematically releases large amounts of water to _____ flooding during the rainy season
v. to prevent something dangerous or undesirable from happening
3. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
4. The _____ hunter was hired to capture the notorious criminal and bring him to justice.
n. a reward offered for capturing or killing someone or for accomplishing a specific task
5. She _____ a stamp to the letter before mailing it.
v. to attach or add something to something else
6. Her failure resulted in a loss of her _____.
n. a feeling of being proud of and confident in yourself
7. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
8. The con artist was known as a notorious _____ who scammed people out of their money.
n. a person or character who uses cunning and deceit to achieve their goals, often in traditional folklore or mythology

ANSWERS: 1. rot, 2. avert, 3. humming, 4. bounty, 5. affixed, 6. self-respect, 7. invade, 8. trickster

9. My left arm became _____.

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

ANSWERS: 9. numb