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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Changhua Wu: Can the US and China take on climate change together? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

geopolitical

adj. of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area

(1) the **geopolitical** situations, (2) reduce **geopolitical** risk
The country holds dominant **geopolitical** power over its neighbors.

deadlock

n. a state of impasse or stalemate, where no progress or agreement can be made between conflicting parties or viewpoints; a situation where future action or decision-making is halted

synonym : stalemate, gridlock, impasse

(1) political **deadlock**, (2) **deadlock** resolution

The negotiations came to a **deadlock** when neither party could reach an agreement.

urgently

adv. in a way that requires immediate action or attention, especially before anything else, because of being very important

synonym : promptly, immediately, swiftly

(1) tackle the problem **urgently**, (2) **urgently** required
I need to send this email **urgently**.

pivot

n. a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances

synonym : center point, fulcrum, heart

(1) center- **pivot** irrigation, (2) **pivot** point

The team needed to come up with a **pivot** strategy to turn things around.

dismal

adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair

synonym : gloomy, depressing, dreary

(1) **dismal** failure, (2) **dismal** performance

The weather was so **dismal** that we decided to stay indoors all day.

commentator

n. a person who provides commentary or analysis, particularly about a specific event, topic, or field, such as sports, news, or politics

synonym : announcer, analyst, presenter

(1) television **commentator**, (2) political **commentator**

The sports **commentator** provided detailed analysis throughout the game.

steadfast

adj. firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges

synonym : unwavering, resolute, loyal

(1) **steadfast** commitment, (2) **steadfast** determination

The **steadfast** soldier refused to leave his post despite the danger.

energize

v. to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate

synonym : invigorate, animate, electrify

(1) **energize** the body, (2) **energize** a team

The motivational speaker **energized** the crowd with their words.

electrify

- v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym: wire, amaze, astonish

- (1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

dedicate

- v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

- (1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

technicality

- n. a minor detail or aspect of a procedure, rule, or law, often used to evade or avoid it

synonym: detail, technical aspect, specification

- (1) governmental **technicality**, (2) a legal **technicality**

He won the case on a **technicality**.

daredevil

- n. a person who takes unnecessary risks, especially involving physical feats or dangerous activities, often for entertainment or thrill-seeking purposes; someone who is fearless and daring

synonym: adventurer, risk-taker, hothead

- (1) reckless **daredevil**, (2) **daredevil** acrobat

The **daredevil's** death-defying stunt left the audience in awe.

decarbonize

- v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy

synonym: decoke, decarburise, decarburize

- (1) **decarbonize** their manufacturing process,
(2) **decarbonize** its energy system

We have to seek methods to **decarbonize** its fossil fuel economy.

secondly

adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.

synonym : in the second place, next, subsequently

(1) **secondly** connected, (2) **secondly**, it is important

Firstly, we will discuss the budget; **secondly**, we will go over the schedule.

glob

n. a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance

synonym : ball, lump, sphere

(1) **glob** of paint, (2) **glob** of honey

She squeezed a **glob** of toothpaste onto her toothbrush.

upfront

adj. frank and honest; (adverb) (of payment) in advance

synonym : honest, authentic, fair

(1) an **upfront** tone, (2) pay **upfront**

He was very **upfront** with him about his intentions.

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.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

supple

adj. flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas

synonym : flexible, pliable, bendable

(1) **supple** muscles, (2) **supple** leather

The ballerina's **supple** movements left the audience mesmerized.

powerhouse

n. an electrical generating station; a person, organization, or thing that is extremely successful or influential
synonym: center of power, fireball, human dynamo

(1) **powerhouse** actors, (2) **powerhouse** economy

The company has become a **powerhouse** in the tech industry with its innovative products and services.

quadruple

v. to consist of four items or people; to become four times as great or many

(1) **quadruple** the amount, (2) **quadruple** the price of gold

His stock earnings **quadrupled**.

decouple

v. to disconnect or separate something from something else that it was joined to or part of previously

synonym: disunite, disjoint, break up

(1) **decouple** a power supply, (2) **decouple** a space shuttle

We have to **decouple** our foreign policy from ideology.

recycle

v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

synonym: reclaim, reuse, reprocess

(1) **recycle** the cardboard boxes, (2) **recycle** milk packaging into new paper

We largely **recycle** the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.

lithium

n. a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

synonym: lithy, Li, salt

(1) **lithium** carbonate, (2) **lithium** mining

Lithium-ion batteries are commonly used in laptops,

smartphones, and electric vehicles.

hurdle

n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome

synonym: obstacle, barrier, challenge

(1) overcome **hurdles**, (2) **hurdle** race

The company faced several **hurdles** in the development of its new product.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym: revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

trustworthy

adj. reliable and dependable

synonym: reliable, dependable, honest

(1) **trustworthy** ally, (2) **trustworthy** source

People tend to believe **trustworthy** friends with their secrets.

rethink

v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

synonym: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

optimism

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

synonym: positiveness, sanguinity, bullishness

(1) sense of **optimism**, (2) political **optimism**

There is considerable **optimism** that the economy will

recover soon.

enlightened

adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

synonym : educated, informed, aware

(1) **enlightened** age, (2) make an **enlightened** decision

The **enlightened** teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.

treasury

n. the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual

synonym : coffer, exchequer, bank

(1) **treasury** bonds, (2) **treasury** money

The protracted war nearly depleted the country's **treasury**.

mushroom

n. a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap

synonym : fungus, toadstool

(1) **mushroom** spores, (2) **mushroom** cultivation

The **mushroom** risotto was delicious, but I couldn't identify all the mushrooms in it.

envoy

n. a person who is sent by one government or organization on a diplomatic mission to represent and negotiate on behalf of their country or organization to another country or organization

synonym : messenger, representative, delegate

(1) cultural **envoy**, (2) diplomatic **envoy**

The president appointed a special **envoy** to mediate the peace talks.

aspiration

n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

synonym : ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs

He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

precondition

n. a necessary condition or requirement that must be met for something else to happen or be possible

synonym: requisite, prerequisite, stipulation

(1) **precondition** agreement, (2) essential **precondition**

A peaceful environment is a **precondition** for meaningful negotiations.

Session 2: Spelling

1. st_____st determination
adj. firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges
2. dec_____ze its energy system
v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
3. pow_____se actors
n. an electrical generating station; a person, organization, or thing that is extremely successful or influential
4. de_____le a space shuttle
v. to disconnect or separate something from something else that it was joined to or part of previously
5. di____l failure
adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
6. se_____ly connected
adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
7. se_____ly, it is important
adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
8. political de_____ck
n. a state of impasse or stalemate, where no progress or agreement can be made between conflicting parties or viewpoints; a situation where future action or decision-making is halted

ANSWERS: 1. steadfast, 2. decarbonize, 3. powerhouse, 4. decouple, 5. dismal, 6. secondly, 7. secondly, 8. deadlock

9. pow_____se economy *n.* an electrical generating station; a person, organization, or thing that is extremely successful or influential
10. su___e muscles *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
11. ur_____ly required *adv.* in a way that requires immediate action or attention, especially before anything else, because of being very important
12. en_____ze a team *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
13. asp_____on into the lungs *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
14. pre_____ion agreement *n.* a necessary condition or requirement that must be met for something else to happen or be possible
15. g__b of honey *n.* a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance
16. overcome hu___es *n.* a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
17. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
18. li_____m carbonate *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

ANSWERS: 9. powerhouse, 10. supple, 11. urgently, 12. energize, 13. aspiration, 14. precondition, 15. glob, 16. hurdle, 17. rev, 18. lithium

19. essential pre_____ion *n.* a necessary condition or requirement that must be met for something else to happen or be possible
20. li_____m mining *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
21. reckless da_____il *n.* a person who takes unnecessary risks, especially involving physical feats or dangerous activities, often for entertainment or thrill-seeking purposes; someone who is fearless and daring
22. re_____e the cardboard boxes *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
23. re_____e milk packaging into new paper *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
24. reduce geo_____cal risk *adj.* of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area
25. political com_____or *n.* a person who provides commentary or analysis, particularly about a specific event, topic, or field, such as sports, news, or politics
26. a legal tec_____ity *n.* a minor detail or aspect of a procedure, rule, or law, often used to evade or avoid it

ANSWERS: 19. precondition, 20. lithium, 21. daredevil, 22. recycle, 23. recycle, 24. geopolitical, 25. commentator, 26. technicality

27. the geo_____cal situations *adj.* of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area
28. tackle the problem ur_____ly *adv.* in a way that requires immediate action or attention, especially before anything else, because of being very important
29. an up_____t tone *adj.* frank and honest; (adverb) (of payment) in advance
30. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
31. tr_____ry bonds *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
32. qu_____le the price of gold *v.* to consist of four items or people; to become four times as great or many
33. g__b of paint *n.* a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance
34. re_____k the role of the manager *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
35. de_____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
36. no asp_____on for fame *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
37. st_____st commitment *adj.* firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges

ANSWERS: 27. geopolitical, 28. urgently, 29. upfront, 30. opportune, 31. treasury, 32. quadruple, 33. glob, 34. rethink, 35. dedicate, 36. aspiration, 37. steadfast

38. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
39. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
40. television com_____or *n.* a person who provides commentary or analysis, particularly about a specific event, topic, or field, such as sports, news, or politics
41. da_____il acrobat *n.* a person who takes unnecessary risks, especially involving physical feats or dangerous activities, often for entertainment or thrill-seeking purposes; someone who is fearless and daring
42. make an enl_____ed decision *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
43. political op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
44. re_____k a marketing plan *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
45. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
46. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

ANSWERS: 38. electrify, 39. rev, 40. commentator, 41. daredevil, 42. enlightened, 43. optimism, 44. rethink, 45. industrious, 46. electrify

47. tru_____hy ally *adj.* reliable and dependable
48. mu_____om spores *n.* a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap
49. governmental tec_____ity *n.* a minor detail or aspect of a procedure, rule, or law, often used to evade or avoid it
50. enl_____ed age *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
51. tr_____ry money *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
52. pay up_____t *adj.* frank and honest; (adverb) (of payment) in advance
53. de_____le a power supply *v.* to disconnect or separate something from something else that it was joined to or part of previously
54. en_____ze the body *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
55. cultural en__y *n.* a person who is sent by one government or organization on a diplomatic mission to represent and negotiate on behalf of their country or organization to another country or organization
56. diplomatic en__y *n.* a person who is sent by one government or organization on a diplomatic mission to represent and negotiate on behalf of their country or organization to another country or organization

ANSWERS: 47. trustworthy, 48. mushroom, 49. technicality, 50. enlightened, 51. treasury, 52. upfront, 53. decouple, 54. energize, 55. envoy, 56. envoy

57. di___l performance *adj.* depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
58. dec_____ze their manufacturing process *v.* to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
59. qu_____le the amount *v.* to consist of four items or people; to become four times as great or many
60. de_____ck resolution *n.* a state of impasse or stalemate, where no progress or agreement can be made between conflicting parties or viewpoints; a situation where future action or decision-making is halted
61. su___e leather *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
62. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
63. pi__t point *n.* a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances
64. sense of op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
65. tru_____hy source *adj.* reliable and dependable
66. mu_____om cultivation *n.* a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap

ANSWERS: 57. dismal, 58. decarbonize, 59. quadruple, 60. deadlock, 61. supple, 62. industrious, 63. pivot, 64. optimism, 65. trustworthy, 66. mushroom

67. de____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
68. hu____e race *n.* a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
69. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
70. center-pi__t irrigation *n.* a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances

ANSWERS: 67. dedicate, 68. hurdle, 69. opportune, 70. pivot

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She squeezed a _____ of toothpaste onto her toothbrush.
n. a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance
2. He has an _____ to become a doctor.
n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
3. We have to seek methods to _____ its fossil fuel economy.
v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
4. The _____ death-defying stunt left the audience in awe.
n. a person who takes unnecessary risks, especially involving physical feats or dangerous activities, often for entertainment or thrill-seeking purposes; someone who is fearless and daring
5. The ballerina's _____ movements left the audience mesmerized.
adj. flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
6. The negotiations came to a _____ when neither party could reach an agreement.
n. a state of impasse or stalemate, where no progress or agreement can be made between conflicting parties or viewpoints; a situation where future action or decision-making is halted
7. He _____ his life to helping others.
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

ANSWERS: 1. glob, 2. aspiration, 3. decarbonize, 4. daredevil's, 5. supple, 6. deadlock, 7. dedicated

8. A peaceful environment is a _____ for meaningful negotiations.
n. a necessary condition or requirement that must be met for something else to happen or be possible
9. Firstly, we will discuss the budget; _____ we will go over the schedule.
adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
10. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
11. There is considerable _____ that the economy will recover soon.
n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
12. _____ batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.
n. a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
13. The motivational speaker _____ the crowd with their words.
v. to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
14. He was very _____ with him about his intentions.
adj. frank and honest; (adverb) (of payment) in advance
15. We largely _____ the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.
v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

ANSWERS: 8. precondition, 9. secondly, 10. electrify, 11. optimism, 12. Lithium-ion, 13. energized, 14. upfront, 15. recycle

16. I need to send this email _____.

adv. in a way that requires immediate action or attention, especially before anything else, because of being very important

17. People tend to believe _____ friends with their secrets.

adj. reliable and dependable

18. The company faced several _____ in the development of its new product.

n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome

19. The weather was so _____ that we decided to stay indoors all day.

adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair

20. The country holds dominant _____ power over its neighbors.

adj. of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area

21. We have to _____ our company's product lineup for further growth.

v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

22. We have to _____ our foreign policy from ideology.

v. to disconnect or separate something from something else that it was joined to or part of previously

23. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

24. The sports _____ provided detailed analysis throughout the game.

n. a person who provides commentary or analysis, particularly about a specific event, topic, or field, such as sports, news, or politics

ANSWERS: 16. urgently, 17. trustworthy, 18. hurdles, 19. dismal, 20. geopolitical, 21. rethink, 22. decouple, 23. industrious, 24. commentator

25. His stock earnings _____.
- v.* to consist of four items or people; to become four times as great or many
26. The president appointed a special _____ to mediate the peace talks.
- n.* a person who is sent by one government or organization on a diplomatic mission to represent and negotiate on behalf of their country or organization to another country or organization
27. The _____ teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.
- adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
28. The protracted war nearly depleted the country's _____.
- n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
29. The company has become a _____ in the tech industry with its innovative products and services.
- n.* an electrical generating station; a person, organization, or thing that is extremely successful or influential
30. The team needed to come up with a _____ strategy to turn things around.
- n.* a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances
31. He won the case on a _____.
- n.* a minor detail or aspect of a procedure, rule, or law, often used to evade or avoid it
32. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud _____.
- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 25. quadrupled, 26. envoy, 27. enlightened, 28. treasury, 29. powerhouse, 30. pivot, 31. technicality, 32. rev

33. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

34. The _____ risotto was delicious, but I couldn't identify all the mushrooms in it.

n. a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap

35. The _____ soldier refused to leave his post despite the danger.

adj. firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges

ANSWERS: 33. opportune, 34. mushroom, 35. steadfast