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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Antonio Machado-Allison: What happens when you fall into piranha-infested waters? | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/antonio_machado_allison_what_happens_when_you_fall_into_piranha_infested_waters



Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

piranha

- n. a small freshwater fish that inhabit South American rivers that has sharp teeth and eats live animals
- (1) swarm of **piranha**, (2) go **piranha** fishing He thought she was a man-hungry **piranha**.

dart

 a small narrow pointed object, sometimes with feathers to help it fly, that is thrown or shot; (verb) to move along rapidly and lightly

synonym: arrow, (verb) dash

(1) blow dart, (2) dart here and there

A poison dart hit him.

doom

 death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

synonym: judgment, destiny, fate

(1) economic **doom**, (2) prophet of **doom**

Everyone was aware of the impending **doom** but was unable to prevent it.

frenzy

n. a state of wild, uncontrolled excitement or activity, often characterized by chaotic or irrational behavior

synonym: frenetic, commotion, tumult

(1) frenzy of activity, (2) buying frenzy

The shoppers were **frenzy** to get the best deals on Black Friday.

interlocking

adj. fitting or locking together in a way that makes a continuous and secure whole

synonym: connected, linked, joined

(1) interlocking braid, (2) interlocking mechanism

The **interlocking** puzzle pieces were difficult to separate.

omnivorous

adj. consuming or feeding on a wide variety of food, both plants and animals

synonym: all-eating, versatile

(1) **omnivorous** diet, (2) **omnivorous** animals

The **omnivorous** habits of raccoons make them adept at scavenging in urban environments.

crustacean

n. a type of arthropod, such as a crab, lobster, or shrimp, that has a hard outer shell or exoskeleton

synonym: lobster, crab, shrimp

(1) crustacean dish, (2) crustacean shell

A lobster is a type of **crustacean** found in the ocean.

scavenge

v. to search for or gather useful material, particularly food or other resources, from discarded waste or other sources

synonym: search, scrounge, rummage

(1) **scavenge** for food, (2) **scavenge** for iron scraps

The raccoon **scavenged** through the garbage cans in search of food.

wimple

n. a garment worn by women, especially nuns, that covers the head, neck, and chin and often drapes down over the shoulders and chest; a fold of skin or flesh on the neck or chin

synonym: veil, head covering, headdress

(1) traditional wimple, (2) lace wimple

The nun's **wimple** was a simple yet elegant head covering that conveyed her religious devotion.

predilection

 a preference or inclination for something; a liking or fondness for something

synonym: inclination, leaning, preference

(1) **predilection** for chocolate, (2) a strong **predilection** for dogs

Her **predilection** for spicy food made her the go-to person for restaurant recommendations.

specie

 n. coins or notes in a currency, as distinct from paper money; a chemical substance or group made up of identical molecules

synonym: coinage, mintage

(1) **specie** reserve, (2) ground-state **specie**

The store only accepts payment in cash, no credit or debit cards, only **specie**.

solitary

adj. existing, living, or doing without others

synonym: lonely, unsociable, singular

(1) use of **solitary** confinement, (2) a **solitary** traveler He never uttered a **solitary** word.

shoal

n. a shallow area in a body of water, such as a river, lake, or sea, where the depth is significantly less than surrounding areas; a sandbar or underwater ridge that can be a hazard to navigation; a large group of fish or other aquatic animals swimming together

synonym: sandbank, sandbar, shallows

(1) shoal of fish, (2) reef shoal

The fisherman's boat narrowly avoided hitting a dangerous **shoal** in the shallow waters.

depict

- v. to illustrate someone or something in a photographsynonym: illustrate, describe, express
- (1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation

His son had accurately depicted the bloom.

rapacious

adj. aggressively greedy or grasping, often about money or resources; devouring or predactious in nature

synonym: greedy, predatory, acquisitive

(1) rapacious appetite, (2) rapacious behavior

The **rapacious** CEO made millions while exploiting his workers.

misinformation

 information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately

synonym: falsity, misreport, misstatement

(1) **misinformation** about a vaccine, (2) combat **misinformation** on social media

The government called for caution against pseudoscientific **misinformation** about vaccines.

predator

- n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on otherssynonym: vulture, bloodsucker
- (1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

posit

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

synonym: assert, declare, assume

(1) **posit** the existence of life after death, (2) **posit** the premise

We should **posit** several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

thud

 a dull, heavy sound made when a heavy object falls or strikes a surface, often with a low frequency and resonance

synonym: bang, collision, crash

(1) thud of footsteps, (2) a distant thud

The loud **thud** of the door closing echoed through the empty

hallway.

escalate

ν. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious

synonym: increase, intensify, expand

(1) **escalate** into a major international incident, (2) to **escalate**

The situation quickly **escalated** and turned violent.

repertoire

n. the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something

synonym: collection, range, reservoir

(1) musical **repertoire**, (2) cooking **repertoire**

The chef's **repertoire** of dishes includes both classic and innovative recipes.

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.

disturb

- ν . to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
- synonym: agitate, bother, intrude
- (1) disturb the peace, (2) disturb his sleep

Tourists frequently **disturb** the island's delicate natural balance.

starvation

n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death

synonym: hunger, malnutrition, emaciation

(1) die of **starvation**, (2) **starvation** wages

The drought led to widespread **starvation** in the region.

rumor

n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth

synonym: gossip, whisper, talk

(1) a false rumor, (2) rumor mill

There was a baseless **rumor** that the company was going bankrupt.

infamy

 n. the state or quality of being well-known for a negative or shameful act, behavior, or reputation; reputation for disgrace or evil deeds

synonym: disgrace, dishonor, shame

(1) **infamy** among his friends, (2) the **infamy** of terrible service

Scholars often regard his reign as a century's pinnacle of **infamy**, marked by deception and tyranny.

ferocious

adj. very fierce, savage, or cruel synonym: savage, fierce, brutal

(1) **ferocious** beast, (2) **ferocious** predator

The lion's **ferocious** roar could be heard from miles away.

incite

v. to encourage, stir up, or provoke someone to do something; to urge, instigate, or stimulate someone to take action, often negative or aggressive

synonym: provoke, stimulate, encourage

(1) incite violence, (2) incite rebellion

The politician's speech seemed designed to **incite** anger and unrest among the crowd.

devour

v. to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly

synonym: consume, swallow, destroy

(1) devour a meal, (2) devour my way

She **devoured** the mystery novel in one sitting.

mislead

v. to cause someone to believe something that is not true synonym: misinform, delude, belie

(1) mislead him into trusting h	er, (2) mislead the enemy
Our troops pulled back to mis	ead the enemy.

purposeful

adj. having a specific aim or purpose; determined synonym: determined, resolved, resolute

(1) **purposeful** series of actions, (2) at a **purposeful** pace She had a **purposeful** look and was determined to complete the task.

starve

v. to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

synonym: famish, hunger

(1) **starve** for a victory, (2) **starve** to death If you don't eat soon, you're going to **starve**.

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.

carcass

 the dead body of an animal, especially one that has been killed for food

synonym: corpse, remains, body

(1) examine a **carcass**, (2) **carcass** disposal

The animal's **carcass** was found in the forest, most likely killed by a predator.

gutsy

adj. displaying courage, determination, or boldness;
 characterized by a willingness to take risks or face
 challenges

synonym: courageous, brave, daring

(1) **gutsy** move, (2) **gutsy** performance It was **gutsy** to quit her job and start her own business.

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disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

extravaganza

 a spectacular or extravagant show, event, or celebration; a lavish or excessive display of wealth, talent, or creativity

synonym: spectacle, pageant, show

- (1) holiday **extravaganza**, (2) music **extravaganza**The fashion show was a lavish, glittering **extravaganza** of style and glamour.
- to walk through water that is not deep enough to swim in; to struggle or proceed slowly and laboriously through something, such as a difficult situation or a crowd of people

synonym: paddle, trudge, slosh

(1) **wade** down a street, (2) **wade** through paperwork

I had to **wade** through the knee-deep water to get to the other side of the river.

dentition

n. the arrangement, number, and types of teeth in an organism, including both the deciduous (= baby) teeth and permanent teeth

synonym: tooth arrangement, odontiasis

(1) eruption of **dentition**, (2) adult **dentition**The **dentition** pattern of mammals can provide clues about their dietary habits and evolutionary lineage.

Session 2: Spelling

1.	a strong preion for dogs	n.	a preference or inclination for something; a liking or fondness for something
2.	ine violence	ν.	to encourage, stir up, or provoke someone to do something; to urge, instigate, or stimulate someone to take action, often negative or aggressive
3.	use of sory confinement	adj.	existing, living, or doing without others
4.	iny among his friends	n.	the state or quality of being well-known for a negative or shameful act, behavior, or reputation; reputation for disgrace or evil deeds
5.	cas disposal	n.	the dead body of an animal, especially one that has been killed for food
6.	die of staon	n.	a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
7.	pot the premise	<i>v</i> .	to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
8.	omnus diet	adj.	consuming or feeding on a wide variety of food, both plants and animals
9.	ground-state spe	n.	coins or notes in a currency, as distinct from paper money; a chemical substance or group made up of identical molecules
10.	eruption of deon	n.	the arrangement, number, and types of teeth in an organism, including both the deciduous (= baby) teeth and permanent teeth

ANSWERS: 1. predilection, 2. incite, 3. solitary, 4. infamy, 5. carcass, 6. starvation, 7. posit, 8. omnivorous, 9. specie, 10. dentition

ANSWERS: 11. interlocking, 12. devour, 13. devour, 14. rumor, 15. doom, 16. rapacious, 17. specie, 18. disrupt, 19. disturb, 20. mislead, 21. piranha

ANSWERS: 22. interlocking, 23. thud, 24. repertoire, 25. disturb, 26. starve, 27. escalate, 28. rumor, 29. omnivorous, 30. dentition

ANSWERS: 31. scavenge, 32. dart, 33. doom, 34. wade, 35. misinformation, 36. frenzy, 37. scavenge, 38. opportune, 39. ferocious, 40. solitary

predilection, 56. mislead, 57. dart, 58. frenzy, 59. humming

60. we down a street	v.	to walk through water that is not deep enough to swim in; to struggle or proceed slowly and laboriously through something, such as a difficult situation or a crowd of people
61. det a scene	<i>v</i> .	to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
62. apex pror	n.	an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
63. cooking repre	n.	the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person o group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something
64. purul series of actions	adj.	having a specific aim or purpose; determined
65. cruan dish	n.	a type of arthropod, such as a crab, lobster, or shrimp, that has a hard outer shell or exoskeleton
66. shI of fish	n.	a shallow area in a body of water, such as a river, lake, or sea, where the depth is significantly less than surrounding areas; a sandbar or underwater ridge that can be a hazard to navigation; a large group of fish or other aquatic animals swimming together
67. cruan shell	n.	a type of arthropod, such as a crab, lobster, or shrimp, that has a hard outer shell or exoskeleton
ANSWERS: 60. wade, 61. depict, 62. pred crustacean, 66. shoal, 67. crustacean	lator	, 63. repertoire, 64. purposeful, 65.

extravaganza, 74. carcass, 75. piranha, 76. gutsy

- 77. po_t the existence of life after death
- 78. gu__y move

ANSWERS: 77. posit, 78. gutsy

- v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
- adj. displaying courage, determination, or boldness; characterized by a willingness to take risks or face challenges

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1.	The shoppers were to get the best deals on Black Friday.
n.	a state of wild, uncontrolled excitement or activity, often characterized by chaotic or irrational behavior
2.	The chef's of dishes includes both classic and innovative recipes.
n.	the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something
3.	The phone rang at the most time.
adj	suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
4.	The loud of the door closing echoed through the empty hallway.
n.	a dull, heavy sound made when a heavy object falls or strikes a surface, often with a low frequency and resonance
5.	Scholars often regard his reign as a century's pinnacle of marked by deception and tyranny.
n.	the state or quality of being well-known for a negative or shameful act, behavior, or reputation; reputation for disgrace or evil deeds
6.	She the mystery novel in one sitting.
<i>v</i> .	to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
7.	We should several hypotheses to discuss the matter.
<i>v</i> .	to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
AN pos	SWERS: 1. frenzy, 2. repertoire, 3. opportune, 4. thud, 5. infamy, 6. devoured, 7.

predilection, 38. humming

39. Our troops pulled back to		the enemy	′ .		
to cause someone to be	ieve som	nething that	is not true)	
NSWERS: 39. mislead					
NSWERS. 39. Misieau					