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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Peter Eigen: How to expose the corrupt | TED Talk
https://www.ted.com/talks/peter_eigen_how_to_expose_the_corrupt

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

juxtapose

v. to place two or more things side by side, often to compare or contrast them or to create an effect of surprise or incongruity

synonym: place side by side, compare, contrast

(1) **juxtapose** images, (2) **juxtapose** two ideas

The artist likes to **juxtapose** different styles and colors in her paintings.

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.

reintroduce

v. to bring back something that has been previously abolished or discontinued

synonym: bring back, restore, reestablish

(1) **reintroduce** species, (2) **reintroduce** capital punishment

The government is planning to **reintroduce** wolves to the national park to restore the balance of the ecosystem.

primacy

n. the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority

synonym: supremacy, dominance, leadership

(1) military **primacy**, (2) **primacy** of economics

New competitors threatened the company's **primacy** in the market.

ravage

v. to cause damage to something badly

synonym: devastate, ruin, destroy

(1) **ravage** a country, (2) **ravage** the brain

A large fire **ravaged** the forest.

meddle

v. to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own

synonym: interfere, intrude, tamper

(1) **meddle** in relationships, (2) **meddle** with the evidence

She always tries to **meddle** in other people's affairs, and it's starting to get annoying.

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.

smack

v. to hit something or someone with force, often making a loud noise; to deliver a sharp criticism or rebuke

synonym: hit, slap, strike

(1) **smack** on the lips, (2) **smack** his knee

The baseball player **smacked** the ball out of the park, securing a home run.

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.

riverine

adj. relating to, inhabiting, or characteristic of a river or rivers; located or occurring along the banks or within the vicinity of a river

synonym : river-related, fluvial, stream

(1) **riverine** areas, (2) **riverine** ecosystem

The army conducted **riverine** operations to secure the border area.

nomadic

adj. moving from one location to another rather than staying in one place all of the time

synonym : mobile, migratory, wandering

(1) **nomadic** life, (2) **nomadic** herdsmen

This desert is the territory of **nomadic** tribes.

indebted

adj. owing money or having financial obligations to another person or organization; feeling grateful or obligated to someone for their help, support, or kindness

synonym : owing, obligated, beholden

(1) **indebted** to creditors, (2) financially **indebted**

He felt **indebted** to his parents for all the sacrifices they had made for him.

siphon

n. a tube or conduit used to transfer liquids, usually from a higher to a lower level, by means of atmospheric pressure, gravity, or vacuum; a device used to extract a liquid from a container

synonym : tube, hose, pipe

(1) **siphon** off political funds, (2) **siphon** jet

The **siphon** pipe in my aquarium helps to keep the water clean and clear by removing debris and waste.

pervert

v. to change the inherent purpose or function of something; to influence somebody to behave in morally unacceptable ways; to corrupt or lead astray; (noun) a person who engages in sexual behavior or has sexual interests that are considered abnormal or deviant by society

synonym : distort, corrupt, twist

(1) **pervert** justice, (2) **pervert** young men

The teacher warned the students not to **pervert** the story's meaning by twisting the facts.

policymaker

n. a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

synonym : lawmaker, legislator

(1) education **policymaker**, (2) regional **policymaker**

Policymakers struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.

consequent

adj. resulting or following as a result of something else; (noun) something that is logical or naturally follows from something else

synonym : resulting, following, logical

(1) **consequent** increase, (2) the fallacy of affirming the **consequent**

The increase in demand for the product led to a **consequent** rise in its price.

moth

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

(1) **moth** larva, (2) **moth** attracted to the light

The **moth** is a serious threat to the farm's output.

afterward

adv. after the time mentioned

synonym : later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**

We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

bribery

n. the practice or attempt of offering something, usually money, to gain an unlawful advantage

synonym : graft, bribe

(1) **bribery** scandal, (2) vulnerable to **bribery**

He is currently under accusation of fraud and **bribery**.

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.

germ

n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym : bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

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.

auspice

n. a sign, omen, or indication that is believed to provide guidance or protection, often used in the context of a positive influence or patronage

synonym : omen, sign, portent

(1) under the **auspices** of the law, (2) **auspice** of a mentor

Under the **auspices** of the local government, a charity event was organized to support people without housing.

oblige

v. to force or require someone to do something through legal, social, or moral obligations; to voluntarily do something to help or please someone; to be indebted or grateful to someone

synonym: compel, require, force

(1) **oblige** him to reject, (2) **oblige** a request

As a citizen, we must **oblige** to the laws of the land.

aspen

n. a deciduous tree with smooth, white bark that often trembles or quakes in the wind; a type of skiing that involves quick, short turns on steep slopes

synonym: tree, hardwood

(1) **aspen** grove, (2) golden **aspen** leaves

The **aspen** trees turned a bright yellow in the fall, creating a beautiful sight.

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.

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.

applaud

v. to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands

synonym: clap, celebrate, praise

(1) **applaud** his courage, (2) **applaud** the orchestra

I enthusiastically **applaud** my rival's achievement.

prosecute

v. to bring legal action against someone in a court of law; to pursue or carry out something to completion or

achievement

synonym : charge, sue, bring to trial

(1) **prosecute** criminal, (2) **prosecute** case

The attorney decided to **prosecute** the suspect for stealing from the store.

ratification

n. the formal confirmation or approval of something, typically a legal document, treaty, or agreement, by an authoritative body or individual

synonym : approval, endorsement, validation

(1) constitutional **ratification**, (2) the **ratification** of the law

The **ratification** process for the new trade agreement took longer than expected.

ratify

v. to officially approve or confirm something, often through a formal process or agreement; to give legal or binding validity to something by formal consent or agreement

synonym : approve, endorse, validate

(1) **ratify** a treaty, (2) **ratify** an agreement

The members of the organization voted to **ratify** the new constitution.

preach

v. to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience

synonym : expound, advocate, sermonize

(1) **preach** the gospel, (2) **preach** to the masses

The pastor **preached** about the importance of forgiveness.

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. ra___e a country | v. | to cause damage to something badly |
| 2. sm__k on the lips | v. | to hit something or someone with force, often making a loud noise; to deliver a sharp criticism or rebuke |
| 3. vulnerable to br____y | n. | the practice or attempt of offering something, usually money, to gain an unlawful advantage |
| 4. rei_____ce species | v. | to bring back something that has been previously abolished or discontinued |
| 5. si___n jet | n. | a tube or conduit used to transfer liquids, usually from a higher to a lower level, by means of atmospheric pressure, gravity, or vacuum; a device used to extract a liquid from a container |
| 6. 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 |
| 7. em_____r the secretary to do the same | v. | to give someone the power or authority to do something |
| 8. pr_____y of economics | n. | the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority |
| 9. ri_____ne ecosystem | adj. | relating to, inhabiting, or characteristic of a river or rivers; located or occurring along the banks or within the vicinity of a river |

ANSWERS: 1. ravage, 2. smack, 3. bribery, 4. reintroduce, 5. siphon, 6. bribe, 7. empower, 8. primacy, 9. riverine

10. asy_____ic warfare *adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement
11. m__h attracted to the light *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
12. education pol_____er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
13. have dis_____us consequences *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
14. the fallacy of affirming the con_____nt *adj.* resulting or following as a result of something else; (noun) something that is logical or naturally follows from something else
15. ra____y an agreement *v.* to officially approve or confirm something, often through a formal process or agreement; to give legal or binding validity to something by formal consent or agreement
16. a g__m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
17. ju_____se images *v.* to place two or more things side by side, often to compare or contrast them or to create an effect of surprise or incongruity
18. pr_____te case *v.* to bring legal action against someone in a court of law; to pursue or carry out something to completion or achievement

ANSWERS: 10. asymmetric, 11. moth, 12. policymaker, 13. disastrous, 14. consequent, 15. ratify, 16. germ, 17. juxtapose, 18. prosecute

19. regional pol_____er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
20. me___e with the evidence *v.* to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own
21. absolutely dis_____us effect *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
22. ap_____d the orchestra *v.* to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands
23. au_____e of a mentor *n.* a sign, omen, or indication that is believed to provide guidance or protection, often used in the context of a positive influence or patronage
24. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
25. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
26. ra___y a treaty *v.* to officially approve or confirm something, often through a formal process or agreement; to give legal or binding validity to something by formal consent or agreement
27. ob___e a request *v.* to force or require someone to do something through legal, social, or moral obligations; to voluntarily do something to help or please someone; to be indebted or grateful to someone
28. financially in_____ed *adj.* owing money or having financial obligations to another person or organization; feeling grateful or obligated to someone for their help, support, or kindness

ANSWERS: 19. policymaker, 20. meddle, 21. disastrous, 22. applaud, 23. auspice, 24. empower, 25. industrious, 26. ratify, 27. oblige, 28. indebted

29. no____c herdsmen *adj.* moving from one location to another rather than staying in one place all of the time
30. the rat_____ion of the law *n.* the formal confirmation or approval of something, typically a legal document, treaty, or agreement, by an authoritative body or individual
31. golden as__n leaves *n.* a deciduous tree with smooth, white bark that often trembles or quakes in the wind; a type of skiing that involves quick, short turns on steep slopes
32. ri_____ne areas *adj.* relating to, inhabiting, or characteristic of a river or rivers; located or occurring along the banks or within the vicinity of a river
33. non_____tal agency *adj.* not belonging to or controlled by a government
34. 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
35. under the au_____es of the law *n.* a sign, omen, or indication that is believed to provide guidance or protection, often used in the context of a positive influence or patronage
36. su___e leather *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
37. 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

ANSWERS: 29. nomadic, 30. ratification, 31. aspen, 32. riverine, 33. nongovernmental, 34. electrify, 35. auspice, 36. supple, 37. bribe

38. military pr____y *n.* the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority
39. pr_____te criminal *v.* to bring legal action against someone in a court of law; to pursue or carry out something to completion or achievement
40. asy_____ic information *adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; not corresponding in size, shape, or degree; characterized by an uneven or unequal distribution or arrangement
41. ju_____se two ideas *v.* to place two or more things side by side, often to compare or contrast them or to create an effect of surprise or incongruity
42. rei_____ce capital punishment *v.* to bring back something that has been previously abolished or discontinued
43. ap_____d his courage *v.* to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands
44. pe_____t justice *v.* to change the inherent purpose or function of something; to influence somebody to behave in morally unacceptable ways; to corrupt or lead astray; (noun) a person who engages in sexual behavior or has sexual interests that are considered abnormal or deviant by society
45. pr___h to the masses *v.* to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience
46. constitutional rat_____ion *n.* the formal confirmation or approval of something, typically a legal document, treaty, or agreement, by an authoritative body or individual

ANSWERS: 38. primacy, 39. prosecute, 40. asymmetric, 41. juxtapose, 42. reintroduce, 43. applaud, 44. pervert, 45. preach, 46. ratification

47. su___e muscles *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
48. non_____tal aid worker *adj.* not belonging to or controlled by a government
49. si___n off political funds *n.* a tube or conduit used to transfer liquids, usually from a higher to a lower level, by means of atmospheric pressure, gravity, or vacuum; a device used to extract a liquid from a container
50. con_____nt increase *adj.* resulting or following as a result of something else; (noun) something that is logical or naturally follows from something else
51. no_____c life *adj.* moving from one location to another rather than staying in one place all of the time
52. 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
53. a few years af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
54. ra___e the brain *v.* to cause damage to something badly
55. pr___h the gospel *v.* to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience
56. br_____y scandal *n.* the practice or attempt of offering something, usually money, to gain an unlawful advantage

ANSWERS: 47. supple, 48. nongovernmental, 49. siphon, 50. consequent, 51. nomadic, 52. electrify, 53. afterward, 54. ravage, 55. preach, 56. bribery

57. antibiotic-resistant g__m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
58. as__n grove *n.* a deciduous tree with smooth, white bark that often trembles or quakes in the wind; a type of skiing that involves quick, short turns on steep slopes
59. pe____t young men *v.* to change the inherent purpose or function of something; to influence somebody to behave in morally unacceptable ways; to corrupt or lead astray; (noun) a person who engages in sexual behavior or has sexual interests that are considered abnormal or deviant by society
60. go there af____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
61. in____ed to creditors *adj.* owing money or having financial obligations to another person or organization; feeling grateful or obligated to someone for their help, support, or kindness
62. ind____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
63. me___e in relationships *v.* to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own
64. sm__k his knee *v.* to hit something or someone with force, often making a loud noise; to deliver a sharp criticism or rebuke

ANSWERS: 57. germ, 58. aspen, 59. pervert, 60. afterward, 61. indebted, 62. industrious, 63. meddle, 64. smack

65. m__h larva

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

66. ob___e him to reject

v. to force or require someone to do something through legal, social, or moral obligations; to voluntarily do something to help or please someone; to be indebted or grateful to someone

ANSWERS: 65. moth, 66. oblige

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The ____ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
2. The ____ is a serious threat to the farm's output.
n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
3. The members of the organization voted to _____ the new constitution.
v. to officially approve or confirm something, often through a formal process or agreement; to give legal or binding validity to something by formal consent or agreement
4. The increase in demand for the product led to a _____ rise in its price.
adj. resulting or following as a result of something else; (noun) something that is logical or naturally follows from something else
5. 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
6. I enthusiastically _____ my rival's achievement.
v. to express approval of someone or something by clapping the hands
7. The ____ trees turned a bright yellow in the fall, creating a beautiful sight.
n. a deciduous tree with smooth, white bark that often trembles or quakes in the wind; a type of skiing that involves quick, short turns on steep slopes

ANSWERS: 1. germ, 2. moth, 3. ratify, 4. consequent, 5. asymmetric, 6. applaud, 7. aspen

8. The _____ organization works to promote human rights in developing countries.
adj. not belonging to or controlled by a government
9. As a citizen, we must _____ to the laws of the land.
v. to force or require someone to do something through legal, social, or moral obligations; to voluntarily do something to help or please someone; to be indebted or grateful to someone
10. The pastor _____ about the importance of forgiveness.
v. to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience
11. 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
12. 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
13. The teacher warned the students not to _____ the story's meaning by twisting the facts.
v. to change the inherent purpose or function of something; to influence somebody to behave in morally unacceptable ways; to corrupt or lead astray; (noun) a person who engages in sexual behavior or has sexual interests that are considered abnormal or deviant by society
14. The government is planning to _____ wolves to the national park to restore the balance of the ecosystem.
v. to bring back something that has been previously abolished or discontinued

ANSWERS: 8. nongovernmental, 9. oblige, 10. preached, 11. electrify, 12. supple, 13. pervert, 14. reintroduce

15. The baseball player _____ the ball out of the park, securing a home run.
v. to hit something or someone with force, often making a loud noise; to deliver a sharp criticism or rebuke
16. Under the _____ of the local government, a charity event was organized to support people without housing.
n. a sign, omen, or indication that is believed to provide guidance or protection, often used in the context of a positive influence or patronage
17. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.
adv. after the time mentioned
18. The emission of hazardous substances has _____ effects on the ecology of a region.
adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
19. He felt _____ to his parents for all the sacrifices they had made for him.
adj. owing money or having financial obligations to another person or organization; feeling grateful or obligated to someone for their help, support, or kindness
20. He is currently under accusation of fraud and _____.
n. the practice or attempt of offering something, usually money, to gain an unlawful advantage
21. The artist likes to _____ different styles and colors in her paintings.
v. to place two or more things side by side, often to compare or contrast them or to create an effect of surprise or incongruity
22. 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: 15. smacked, 16. auspices, 17. afterward, 18. disastrous, 19. indebted, 20. bribery, 21. juxtapose, 22. bribe

23. _____ struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.
- n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
24. A large fire _____ the forest.
- v.* to cause damage to something badly
25. She always tries to _____ in other people's affairs, and it's starting to get annoying.
- v.* to interfere in someone else's affairs without permission or invitation; to become involved in an activity that is not one's own
26. This desert is the territory of _____ tribes.
- adj.* moving from one location to another rather than staying in one place all of the time
27. New competitors threatened the company's _____ in the market.
- n.* the state or quality of being first or foremost in importance, rank, or authority
28. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
29. The _____ pipe in my aquarium helps to keep the water clean and clear by removing debris and waste.
- n.* a tube or conduit used to transfer liquids, usually from a higher to a lower level, by means of atmospheric pressure, gravity, or vacuum; a device used to extract a liquid from a container
30. The army conducted _____ operations to secure the border area.
- adj.* relating to, inhabiting, or characteristic of a river or rivers; located or occurring along the banks or within the vicinity of a river

ANSWERS: 23. Policymakers, 24. ravaged, 25. meddle, 26. nomadic, 27. primacy, 28. industrious, 29. siphon, 30. riverine

31. The attorney decided to _____ the suspect for stealing from the store.
- v. to bring legal action against someone in a court of law; to pursue or carry out something to completion or achievement
32. 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
33. The _____ process for the new trade agreement took longer than expected.
- n. the formal confirmation or approval of something, typically a legal document, treaty, or agreement, by an authoritative body or individual

ANSWERS: 31. prosecute, 32. empowered, 33. ratification