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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

hummingbird

n. a small bird with a highly specialized beak and wings that allow it to hover in place, known for its rapid wingbeats and ability to fly in any direction

(1) **hummingbird** feeder, (2) **hummingbird** nest

Watching a **hummingbird** at a flower is like observing a miniature ballet of nature.

hover

v. to stay in one place in the air

synonym: hang, float over, drift

(1) **hover** between life and death, (2) **hover** around the table

Two birds were **hovering** overhead.

volant

adj. capable of flying or moving quickly through the air; flying or airborne

synonym: flying, aerial, soaring

(1) **volant** bird, (2) **volant** insect

The painting depicted several **volant** fairies darting through a moonlit forest.

nimble

adj. quick and light in movement or action

synonym: agile, quick, flexible

(1) **nimble** handling, (2) **nimble-minded** person

His **nimble** movements allowed him to navigate the crowded streets with ease.

vibrate

v. to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side

synonym: oscillate, convulse, jerk

(1) **vibrate** at a regular frequency, (2) **vibrate** with anger

During the flight, the wings of the plane **vibrate**.

crane

n. a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from a beam or hook

synonym: hoist, derrick, winch

(1) **crane** operator, (2) **crane** construction

The construction workers used a **crane** to lift the heavy beams.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

aft

adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

(1) **aft** cabin, (2) **aft** view

The **aft** section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

hundredfold

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

(1) rise nearly **hundredfold**, (2) improve **hundredfold**

The development team reported two **hundredfold** increases in performance.

unbeknownst

adv. without the knowledge or awareness of someone;
without someone's knowledge or participation

synonym : secretly, covertly

(1) **unbeknownst** to me, (2) **unbeknownst** to any of us

Unbeknownst to the family, the treasure had been hidden in the attic for years.

powerplant

n. a facility designed for generating electricity or other forms of power, typically through the use of turbines, engines, or other power-generating mechanisms

synonym : generator, power station, power center

(1) **powerplant** emissions, (2) nuclear **powerplant**

The **powerplant** operator monitors the equipment and power output to ensure everything runs smoothly.

takeoff

n. a departure, especially of airplanes; the initial ascent of an airplane as it becomes airborne

synonym : leaving, departure, liftoff

(1) vertical **takeoff**, (2) **takeoff** run

Our aircraft is now ready for **takeoff**.

adage

n. a short and memorable saying or phrase that expresses a commonly held truth or belief, often based on experience or tradition; a proverb or maxim

synonym : saying, proverb, maxim

(1) proverbial **adage**, (2) famous **adage**

He lived by the wise **adage** "honesty is the best policy" and was respected for his straightforward approach.

aeronautics

n. the science or art of designing, building, and flying aircraft

synonym : aviation, aerospace, flying

(1) **aeronautics** industry, (2) **aeronautics** research

He studied **aeronautics** in college and worked as an aerospace engineer.

stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

synonym : brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels

The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

macabre

adj. gruesome, grisly; relating to death

synonym : grotesque, gruesome, sinister

(1) **macabre** tales of war, (2) **macabre** art

The **macabre** scene in the horror movie gave her nightmares for weeks.

hawk

n. a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations

synonym : militarist, jingo, aggressor

(1) cast off a **hawk**, (2) congressional **hawk**

That team signed a center forward who was a ball- **hawk**.

rotary

adj. relating to, revolving around, or characterized by rotation or a revolving motion

synonym : circular, revolving, spinning

(1) **rotary** motion, (2) **rotary** tool

The **rotary** engine is known for its smooth and efficient operation.

horsepower

n. a unit of power used to measure the output of mechanical engines, specifically the amount of work that one horse can do in a set amount of time

synonym : HP, power, energy

(1) maximum **horsepower**, (2) engine **horsepower**

The company's new generator has a **horsepower** rating of 1000, making it ideal for large buildings.

parachute

n. a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the

air

(1) **parachute** troops, (2) golden **parachute**

This training includes emergency escape drills with **parachutes**.

upscale

adj. denoting products, services, or properties that are considered high-end, luxurious, or exclusive; (adverb) in a way that is high-class, luxurious, or intended to appeal to affluent consumers

synonym : luxurious, high-end, elite

(1) **upscale** neighborhood, (2) **upscale** brand

The restaurant was decorated in an **upscale** style, making it feel luxurious.

situ

adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

synonym : situational, contextual, circumstantial

(1) ex- **situ** conservation, (2) in- **situ** control

Melanoma in **situ** is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.

aphorism

n. a concise statement that expresses a general truth or moral principle; a pithy and memorable statement that is meant to be easily remembered and understood

synonym : maxim, adage, proverb

(1) **aphorism** writer, (2) famous **aphorism**

"A penny saved is a penny earned" is a well-known **aphorism** about the value of frugality.

Session 2: Spelling

1. cr__e operator *n.* a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from a beam or hook
2. hum_____rd feeder *n.* a small bird with a highly specialized beak and wings that allow it to hover in place, known for its rapid wingbeats and ability to fly in any direction
3. ro___y motion *adj.* relating to, revolving around, or characterized by rotation or a revolving motion
4. vertical ta_____f *n.* a departure, especially of airplanes; the initial ascent of an airplane as it becomes airborne
5. improve hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
6. pa_____te troops *n.* a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air
7. vi_____e at a regular frequency *v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
8. maximum hor_____er *n.* a unit of power used to measure the output of mechanical engines, specifically the amount of work that one horse can do in a set amount of time

ANSWERS: 1. crane, 2. hummingbird, 3. rotary, 4. takeoff, 5. hundredfold, 6. parachute, 7. vibrate, 8. horsepower

9. st_____ze blood sugar levels *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
10. congressional h__k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
11. ma_____e tales of war *adj.* gruesome, grisly; relating to death
12. proverbial ad__e *n.* a short and memorable saying or phrase that expresses a commonly held truth or belief, often based on experience or tradition; a proverb or maxim
13. ni___e handling *adj.* quick and light in movement or action
14. ex-s__u conservation *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
15. up_____e brand *adj.* denoting products, services, or properties that are considered high-end, luxurious, or exclusive; (adverb) in a way that is high-class, luxurious, or intended to appeal to affluent consumers
16. st_____ze prices *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
17. vo___t bird *adj.* capable of flying or moving quickly through the air; flying or airborne
18. nuclear pow_____nt *n.* a facility designed for generating electricity or other forms of power, typically through the use of turbines, engines, or other power-generating mechanisms

ANSWERS: 9. stabilize, 10. hawk, 11. macabre, 12. adage, 13. nimble, 14. situ, 15. upscale, 16. stabilize, 17. volant, 18. powerplant

19. aer_____cs industry *n.* the science or art of designing, building, and flying aircraft
20. ho__r between life and death *v.* to stay in one place in the air
21. rise nearly hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
22. vo___t insect *adj.* capable of flying or moving quickly through the air; flying or airborne
23. ap_____sm writer *n.* a concise statement that expresses a general truth or moral principle; a pithy and memorable statement that is meant to be easily remembered and understood
24. unb_____st to any of us *adv.* without the knowledge or awareness of someone; without someone's knowledge or participation
25. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
26. in-s__u control *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
27. cast off a h__k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
28. vi_____e with anger *v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
29. ho__r around the table *v.* to stay in one place in the air

ANSWERS: 19. aeronautics, 20. hover, 21. hundredfold, 22. volant, 23. aphorism, 24. unbeknownst, 25. aft, 26. situ, 27. hawk, 28. vibrate, 29. hover

30. unb_____st to me *adv.* without the knowledge or awareness of someone; without someone's knowledge or participation
31. pow_____nt emissions *n.* a facility designed for generating electricity or other forms of power, typically through the use of turbines, engines, or other power-generating mechanisms
32. famous ad__e *n.* a short and memorable saying or phrase that expresses a commonly held truth or belief, often based on experience or tradition; a proverb or maxim
33. hum_____rd nest *n.* a small bird with a highly specialized beak and wings that allow it to hover in place, known for its rapid wingbeats and ability to fly in any direction
34. famous ap_____sm *n.* a concise statement that expresses a general truth or moral principle; a pithy and memorable statement that is meant to be easily remembered and understood
35. up_____e neighborhood *adj.* denoting products, services, or properties that are considered high-end, luxurious, or exclusive; (adverb) in a way that is high-class, luxurious, or intended to appeal to affluent consumers
36. engine hor_____er *n.* a unit of power used to measure the output of mechanical engines, specifically the amount of work that one horse can do in a set amount of time

ANSWERS: 30. unbeknownst, 31. powerplant, 32. adage, 33. hummingbird, 34. aphorism, 35. upscale, 36. horsepower

37. golden pa_____te *n.* a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air
38. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
39. aer_____cs research *n.* the science or art of designing, building, and flying aircraft
40. cr__e construction *n.* a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from a beam or hook
41. ta_____f run *n.* a departure, especially of airplanes; the initial ascent of an airplane as it becomes airborne
42. a_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
43. ni___e-minded person *adj.* quick and light in movement or action
44. ro___y tool *adj.* relating to, revolving around, or characterized by rotation or a revolving motion
45. ma_____e art *adj.* gruesome, grisly; relating to death
46. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

ANSWERS: 37. parachute, 38. determinant, 39. aeronautics, 40. crane, 41. takeoff, 42. aft, 43. nimble, 44. rotary, 45. macabre, 46. determinant

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The raising of interest rates _____ the inflation rate.
v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
2. The construction workers used a _____ to lift the heavy beams.
n. a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from a beam or hook
3. During the flight, the wings of the plane _____.
v. to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
4. The painting depicted several _____ fairies darting through a moonlit forest.
adj. capable of flying or moving quickly through the air; flying or airborne
5. The _____ scene in the horror movie gave her nightmares for weeks.
adj. gruesome, grisly; relating to death
6. "A penny saved is a penny earned" is a well-known _____ about the value of frugality.
n. a concise statement that expresses a general truth or moral principle; a pithy and memorable statement that is meant to be easily remembered and understood
7. The _____ operator monitors the equipment and power output to ensure everything runs smoothly.
n. a facility designed for generating electricity or other forms of power, typically through the use of turbines, engines, or other power-generating mechanisms

ANSWERS: 1. stabilizes, 2. crane, 3. vibrate, 4. volant, 5. macabre, 6. aphorism, 7. powerplant

8. The restaurant was decorated in an _____ style, making it feel luxurious.
adj. denoting products, services, or properties that are considered high-end, luxurious, or exclusive; (adverb) in a way that is high-class, luxurious, or intended to appeal to affluent consumers
9. That team signed a center forward who was a ball-_____.
n. a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
10. The ___ section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.
adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
11. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
12. The development team reported two _____ increases in performance.
adj. a hundred times as great or as much
13. The _____ engine is known for its smooth and efficient operation.
adj. relating to, revolving around, or characterized by rotation or a revolving motion
14. The company's new generator has a _____ rating of 1000, making it ideal for large buildings.
n. a unit of power used to measure the output of mechanical engines, specifically the amount of work that one horse can do in a set amount of time

ANSWERS: 8. upscale, 9. hawk, 10. aft, 11. determinant, 12. hundredfold, 13. rotary, 14. horsepower

15. He studied _____ in college and worked as an aerospace engineer.
n. the science or art of designing, building, and flying aircraft
16. He lived by the wise _____ "honesty is the best policy" and was respected for his straightforward approach.
n. a short and memorable saying or phrase that expresses a commonly held truth or belief, often based on experience or tradition; a proverb or maxim
17. Watching a _____ at a flower is like observing a miniature ballet of nature.
n. a small bird with a highly specialized beak and wings that allow it to hover in place, known for its rapid wingbeats and ability to fly in any direction
18. This training includes emergency escape drills with _____.
n. a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air
19. Melanoma in _____ is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.
adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
20. Two birds were _____ overhead.
v. to stay in one place in the air
21. Our aircraft is now ready for _____.
n. a departure, especially of airplanes; the initial ascent of an airplane as it becomes airborne

ANSWERS: 15. aeronautics, 16. adage, 17. hummingbird, 18. parachutes, 19. situ, 20. hovering, 21. takeoff

22. _____ to the family, the treasure had been hidden in the attic for years.

adv. without the knowledge or awareness of someone; without someone's knowledge or participation

23. His _____ movements allowed him to navigate the crowded streets with ease.

adj. quick and light in movement or action

ANSWERS: 22. Unbeknownst, 23. nimble