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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Christopher C. Deam: The Airstream, restyled | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

laminare

n. a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring

synonym: veneer, coating, layer

(1) **laminare** flooring, (2) **laminare** table

The countertop in my kitchen is made of durable **laminare** material.

airstream

n. a current of air or wind, often used to refer to a strong or steady flow of air

synonym: breeze, gust, wind

(1) **airstream** trailer, (2) high-speed **airstream**

We felt a cool **airstream** against our faces as we rode with the car windows down.

portray

v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

synonym: depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

steppe

n. a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil

and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America

synonym: prairie, savannah, grassland

(1) **steppe** climate, (2) barren **steppe**

The nomadic tribes set up camp on the vast **steppe**.

idealist

n. a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity

synonym: dreamer, idealizer, visionary

(1) **idealist** at heart, (2) an **idealist** perspective

As a dedicated **idealist**, she always fought for what was right, no matter the cost.

conceive

v. to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant

synonym: imagine, envision, concoct

(1) **conceive** of an idea, (2) **conceive** a child

I can't **conceive** he'd want to harm us.

futurist

n. a person who studies or predicts trends and developments, particularly in science, technology, or social systems, to anticipate what the future may hold

synonym: foreseer, prophet, fortune-teller

(1) **futurist** architecture, (2) **futurist** ideas

The radical **futurist** predicted that virtual reality would become a standard in everyday life.

hurtle

v. to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way

synonym: throw, hurl, fling

(1) **hurtle** into a tunnel, (2) **hurtle** through life

The car **hurtled** down the highway at breakneck speed.

freeway

n. a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways

synonym: highway, expressway, motorway

(1) **freeway** exit, (2) expanded **freeway**

We got stuck in a traffic jam on the **freeway** for over an hour.

synchronize

v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

synonym: coordinate, accompany, harmonize

(1) **synchronize** movements, (2) **synchronize** our watches

The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly **synchronized**.

modernity

n. the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture

synonym: contemporaneousness, present-day, contemporaneity

(1) spirit of **modernity**, (2) path toward **modernity**

He was fascinated by the contrasts between traditional life and the city's **modernity**.

archaeology

n. the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures

(1) the institute of **archaeology**, (2) prehistoric **archaeology**

She teaches **archaeology** at the local university.

devise

v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

synonym: create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

caseworker

n. a social worker or other professionals who provides assistance and guidance to individuals or families who are dealing with various issues, such as poverty, healthcare, mental health, or legal problems

synonym: social worker, case manager, counselor

(1) child's **caseworker**, (2) experienced **caseworker**

The professional **caseworker** provided emotional support and counseling to the client as they worked through challenging life circumstances

rewire

v. to replace or repair the wiring of something, especially an electrical system; to make significant changes in one's thoughts or behavior patterns

synonym: reconfigure, renovate, upgrade

(1) **rewire** a house, (2) **rewire** a program

I need to **rewire** the faulty electrical system in my house to prevent a fire.

turntable

n. a revolving plate or platform used for rotating objects, particularly a device used for playing vinyl records that rotates the record at a constant speed while a needle reads the grooves to produce sound

(1) rotating **turntable**, (2) vintage **turntable**

I carefully placed the vinyl record on the **turntable** and enjoyed the smooth music.

idiosyncrasy

n. a distinctive or unique way of functioning, behaving, or thinking that is characteristic of an individual or a group; a peculiar or eccentric habit or behavior

synonym: peculiarity, quirk, eccentricity

(1) personal **idiosyncrasy**, (2) cultural **idiosyncrasy**

His **idiosyncrasy** of always wearing green socks was a quirky habit.

mold

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

synonym: cavity, cast, mildew

(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy

Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.

scribe

n. a person who writes out copies of documents or manuscripts, especially in ancient times

synonym: copyist, transcriber, writer

(1) **scribe** in ancient Egypt, (2) financial **scribe**

The **scribe's** skills were in high demand in medieval times, when many people were illiterate.

Session 2: Spelling

1. a casting m__d *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

2. m__d allergy *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

3. hu___e into a tunnel *v.* to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way

4. personal idi_____asy *n.* a distinctive or unique way of functioning, behaving, or thinking that is characteristic of an individual or a group; a peculiar or eccentric habit or behavior

5. de___e a plan *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

6. path toward mo_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture

ANSWERS: 1. mold, 2. mold, 3. hurtle, 4. idiosyncrasy, 5. devise, 6. modernity

7. st___e climate *n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America
8. la____te flooring *n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring
9. co____ve of an idea *v.* to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
10. accurately po____y the condition *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
11. barren st___e *n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America
12. vintage tu____le *n.* a revolving plate or platform used for rotating objects, particularly a device used for playing vinyl records that rotates the record at a constant speed while a needle reads the grooves to produce sound
13. fu____st ideas *n.* a person who studies or predicts trends and developments, particularly in science, technology, or social systems, to anticipate what the future may hold

ANSWERS: 7. steppe, 8. laminate, 9. conceive, 10. portray, 11. steppe, 12. turntable, 13. futurist

14. cultural idi_____asy *n.* a distinctive or unique way of functioning, behaving, or thinking that is characteristic of an individual or a group; a peculiar or eccentric habit or behavior
15. ai_____am trailer *n.* a current of air or wind, often used to refer to a strong or steady flow of air
16. la_____te table *n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring
17. re____e a house *v.* to replace or repair the wiring of something, especially an electrical system; to make significant changes in one's thoughts or behavior patterns
18. child's cas_____er *n.* a social worker or other professionals who provides assistance and guidance to individuals or families who are dealing with various issues, such as poverty, healthcare, mental health, or legal problems
19. sc____e in ancient Egypt *n.* a person who writes out copies of documents or manuscripts, especially in ancient times
20. de____e a literary plot *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
21. po_____y feelings in words *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

ANSWERS: 14. idiosyncrasy, 15. airstream, 16. laminate, 17. rewire, 18. caseworker, 19. scribe, 20. devise, 21. portray

22. prehistoric arc_____gy *n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
23. rotating tu_____le *n.* a revolving plate or platform used for rotating objects, particularly a device used for playing vinyl records that rotates the record at a constant speed while a needle reads the grooves to produce sound
24. id_____st at heart *n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity
25. expanded fr_____y *n.* a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways
26. high-speed ai_____am *n.* a current of air or wind, often used to refer to a strong or steady flow of air
27. co_____ve a child *v.* to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
28. financial sc_____e *n.* a person who writes out copies of documents or manuscripts, especially in ancient times
29. fu_____st architecture *n.* a person who studies or predicts trends and developments, particularly in science, technology, or social systems, to anticipate what the future may hold

ANSWERS: 22. archaeology, 23. turntable, 24. idealist, 25. freeway, 26. airstream, 27. conceive, 28. scribe, 29. futurist

30. spirit of mo_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture
31. re___e a program *v.* to replace or repair the wiring of something, especially an electrical system; to make significant changes in one's thoughts or behavior patterns
32. the institute of arc_____gy *n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
33. experienced cas_____er *n.* a social worker or other professionals who provides assistance and guidance to individuals or families who are dealing with various issues, such as poverty, healthcare, mental health, or legal problems
34. fr_____y exit *n.* a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways
35. an id_____st perspective *n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity
36. syn_____ze movements *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
37. hu___e through life *v.* to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way

ANSWERS: 30. modernity, 31. rewire, 32. archaeology, 33. caseworker, 34. freeway, 35. idealist, 36. synchronize, 37. hurtle

38. syn_____ze our watches

v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

ANSWERS: 38. synchronize

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. His _____ of always wearing green socks was a quirky habit.
 - n.* a distinctive or unique way of functioning, behaving, or thinking that is characteristic of an individual or a group; a peculiar or eccentric habit or behavior

2. The professional _____ provided emotional support and counseling to the client as they worked through challenging life circumstances
 - n.* a social worker or other professionals who provides assistance and guidance to individuals or families who are dealing with various issues, such as poverty, healthcare, mental health, or legal problems

3. The nomadic tribes set up camp on the vast _____.
 - n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America

4. We often _____ political problems as religious issues.
 - v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

5. The _____ skills were in high demand in medieval times, when many people were illiterate.
 - n.* a person who writes out copies of documents or manuscripts, especially in ancient times

6. As a dedicated _____ she always fought for what was right, no matter the cost.
 - n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity

ANSWERS: 1. idiosyncrasy, 2. caseworker, 3. steppe, 4. portray, 5. scribe's, 6. idealist,

7. Mushrooms and _____ are fungi.
- n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
8. We felt a cool _____ against our faces as we rode with the car windows down.
- n.* a current of air or wind, often used to refer to a strong or steady flow of air
9. I carefully placed the vinyl record on the _____ and enjoyed the smooth music.
- n.* a revolving plate or platform used for rotating objects, particularly a device used for playing vinyl records that rotates the record at a constant speed while a needle reads the grooves to produce sound
10. They had to _____ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
- v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
11. We got stuck in a traffic jam on the _____ for over an hour.
- n.* a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways
12. He was fascinated by the contrasts between traditional life and the city's _____.
- n.* the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture
13. The countertop in my kitchen is made of durable _____ material.
- n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring

ANSWERS: 7. mold, 8. airstream, 9. turntable, 10. devise, 11. freeway, 12. modernity, 13. laminate

14. The car _____ down the highway at breakneck speed.
v. to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way
15. The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly _____.
v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
16. I need to _____ the faulty electrical system in my house to prevent a fire.
v. to replace or repair the wiring of something, especially an electrical system; to make significant changes in one's thoughts or behavior patterns
17. The radical _____ predicted that virtual reality would become a standard in everyday life.
n. a person who studies or predicts trends and developments, particularly in science, technology, or social systems, to anticipate what the future may hold
18. She teaches _____ at the local university.
n. the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
19. I can't _____ he'd want to harm us.
v. to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant

ANSWERS: 14. hurtled, 15. synchronized, 16. rewire, 17. futurist, 18. archaeology, 19. conceive