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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Seema Bansal: How to fix a broken education system

... without any more money | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

archaic

adj. old and no longer used or applicable; of or seeming to belong to an ancient period in history

synonym : ancient, antique, old-fashioned

(1) **archaic** humans, (2) seem somewhat **archaic**

He deliberately read picture books in an **archaic** way to please the children.

bureaucracy

n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives

synonym : administration, government, system

(1) government **bureaucracy**, (2) arbitrary **bureaucracy**

The bumbling **bureaucracy** made it difficult to get the permits we needed.

heartbreak

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

synonym : grief, sorrow, bitterness

(1) ease her **heartbreak**, (2) go through **heartbreak**

They had experienced the **heartbreak** of losing two children due to premature births.

workbook

n. a book used to practice and reinforce lessons or exercises, especially in a school or educational setting
synonym : exercise book, manual

(1) **workbook** exercise, (2) language **workbook**

I have to complete the exercises in the **workbook** before the next class.

replicate

v. to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results
synonym : duplicate, imitate, reproduce

(1) **replicate** the cell, (2) **replicate** data

The experiment was **replicated** several times to ensure accuracy.

incapable

adj. unable to do, control, or achieve something
synonym : unable, incompetent, unskilled

(1) drunk and **incapable**, (2) **incapable** of being resisted

He seems **incapable** of understanding what she says.

midday

n. noon; twelve o'clock in the middle of the day
synonym : noon, meridian, noontime

(1) **midday** meal, (2) **midday** glare of the sun

We usually have a lunch meeting at **midday**.

headquarter

n. the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
synonym : base, center, command

(1) administrative **headquarter**, (2) an emergency **headquarter**

The company decided to move its **headquarters** to New York City.

executor

n. a person appointed by a court to carry out the instructions of a will; a person who produces or enforces something or causes it to come into use
synonym : administrator, trustee, executrix

(1) testamentary **executor**, (2) appointed **executor**

The will **executor** was responsible for distributing the assets to the beneficiaries.

delve

v. to dig or excavate deeply; to investigate or research intensively; to rummage or explore in a thorough or careful manner

synonym: dig, excavate, uncover

(1) **delve** deeper, (2) **delve** into documents

Researchers must **delve** into the intricacies of the human brain to understand mental illness.

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.

recreate

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

synonym: renovate, vivify, revive

(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s

She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

hands-on

adj. actively involved, practical; having hands involved in the doing or making of something

synonym: practical, involved, hands-in

(1) **hands-on** activity, (2) take a **hands-on** approach

The **hands-on** workshop allowed attendees to work with tools and materials, developing their skills in a hands-on environment.

memorize

v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly

synonym: learn, remember, remind

(1) **memorize** musical scores, (2) try hard to **memorize** the lines

Lawyers need to **memorize** even the most minor provisions of the law.

abacus

n. a counting device consisting of a frame with rods or wires on which beads or stones are moved to perform arithmetic calculations

synonym: bead frame, counting frame

(1) **abacus** calculations, (2) wooden **abacus** beads

The child was learning how to use an **abacus** in her math class.

eureka

n. exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight

synonym: discovery, breakthrough, aha moment

(1) have a **eureka** moment, (2) shout "**eureka!**"

"**Eureka!**" he exclaimed, finally solving the problem.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict

Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

wildfire

n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope

synonym: blaze, bonfire, flame

(1) **wildfire** spread, (2) arson-caused **wildfire**

The **wildfire** destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.

instantaneous

adj. occurring or happening immediately or without delay;
taking place in an instant or moment

synonym: immediate, prompt, rapid

(1) **instantaneous** reaction, (2) **instantaneous** message

The new software provides **instantaneous** results, making it much more efficient than the previous version.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. arson-caused wi_____re | <i>n.</i> a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope |
| 2. environmental det_____nt | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 3. wo_____ok exercise | <i>n.</i> a book used to practice and reinforce lessons or exercises, especially in a school or educational setting |
| 4. ease her hea_____ak | <i>n.</i> a feeling of great sadness or disappointment |
| 5. wi_____re spread | <i>n.</i> a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope |
| 6. re_____te the feeling of the 1920s | <i>v.</i> to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again |
| 7. mi_____y glare of the sun | <i>n.</i> noon; twelve o'clock in the middle of the day |
| 8. de__e into documents | <i>v.</i> to dig or excavate deeply; to investigate or research intensively; to rummage or explore in a thorough or careful manner |
| 9. re_____te data | <i>v.</i> to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results |

ANSWERS: 1. wildfire, 2. determinant, 3. workbook, 4. heartbreak, 5. wildfire, 6. recreate, 7. midday, 8. delve, 9. replicate

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 10. try hard to me_____ze the lines | <i>v.</i> to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly |
| 11. have a eu___a moment | <i>n.</i> exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight |
| 12. seem somewhat ar_____c | <i>adj.</i> old and no longer used or applicable; of or seeming to belong to an ancient period in history |
| 13. a det_____nt of crop yields | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 14. take a ha_____on approach | <i>adj.</i> actively involved, practical; having hands involved in the doing or making of something |
| 15. language wo_____ok | <i>n.</i> a book used to practice and reinforce lessons or exercises, especially in a school or educational setting |
| 16. me_____ze musical scores | <i>v.</i> to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly |
| 17. re_____te a single country | <i>v.</i> to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again |
| 18. administrative hea_____er | <i>n.</i> the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed |
| 19. an emergency hea_____er | <i>n.</i> the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed |
| 20. sma_____ne addict | <i>n.</i> a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet |
| 21. wooden ab___s beads | <i>n.</i> a counting device consisting of a frame with rods or wires on which beads or stones are moved to perform arithmetic calculations |

ANSWERS: 10. memorize, 11. eureka, 12. archaic, 13. determinant, 14. hands-on, 15. workbook, 16. memorize, 17. recreate, 18. headquarter, 19. headquarter, 20. smartphone, 21. abacus

22. ins_____ous message *adj.* occurring or happening immediately or without delay; taking place in an instant or moment
23. government bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
24. ar_____c humans *adj.* old and no longer used or applicable; of or seeming to belong to an ancient period in history
25. go through hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
26. ha_____on activity *adj.* actively involved, practical; having hands involved in the doing or making of something
27. de__e deeper *v.* to dig or excavate deeply; to investigate or research intensively; to rummage or explore in a thorough or careful manner
28. testamentary ex_____or *n.* a person appointed by a court to carry out the instructions of a will; a person who produces or enforces something or causes it to come into use
29. re_____te the cell *v.* to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results
30. shout "eu___a!" *n.* exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight
31. mi___y meal *n.* noon; twelve o'clock in the middle of the day

ANSWERS: 22. instantaneous, 23. bureaucracy, 24. archaic, 25. heartbreak, 26. hands-on, 27. delve, 28. executor, 29. replicate, 30. eureka, 31. midday

32. ab___s calculations *n.* a counting device consisting of a frame with rods or wires on which beads or stones are moved to perform arithmetic calculations
33. appointed ex____or *n.* a person appointed by a court to carry out the instructions of a will; a person who produces or enforces something or causes it to come into use
34. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
35. ins_____ous reaction *adj.* occurring or happening immediately or without delay; taking place in an instant or moment
36. arbitrary bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
37. drunk and in_____le *adj.* unable to do, control, or achieve something
38. in_____le of being resisted *adj.* unable to do, control, or achieve something

ANSWERS: 32. abacus, 33. executor, 34. smartphone, 35. instantaneous, 36. bureaucracy, 37. incapable, 38. incapable

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

- I have to complete the exercises in the _____ before the next class.
n. a book used to practice and reinforce lessons or exercises, especially in a school or educational setting
- We usually have a lunch meeting at _____.
n. noon; twelve o'clock in the middle of the day
- Lawyers need to _____ even the most minor provisions of the law.
v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
- The experiment was _____ several times to ensure accuracy.
v. to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results
- The bumbling _____ made it difficult to get the permits we needed.
n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
- He seems _____ of understanding what she says.
adj. unable to do, control, or achieve something
- 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
- The company decided to move its _____ to New York City.
n. the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed

ANSWERS: 1. workbook, 2. midday, 3. memorize, 4. replicated, 5. bureaucracy, 6. incapable, 7. determinant, 8. headquarters

9. Researchers must _____ into the intricacies of the human brain to understand mental illness.
- v.* to dig or excavate deeply; to investigate or research intensively; to rummage or explore in a thorough or careful manner
10. The _____ workshop allowed attendees to work with tools and materials, developing their skills in a hands-on environment.
- adj.* actively involved, practical; having hands involved in the doing or making of something
11. " _____ he exclaimed, finally solving the problem.
- n.* exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight
12. The new software provides _____ results, making it much more efficient than the previous version.
- adj.* occurring or happening immediately or without delay; taking place in an instant or moment
13. The will _____ was responsible for distributing the assets to the beneficiaries.
- n.* a person appointed by a court to carry out the instructions of a will; a person who produces or enforces something or causes it to come into use
14. She _____ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.
- v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
15. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
- n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

ANSWERS: 9. delve, 10. hands-on, 11. Eureka!", 12. instantaneous, 13. executor, 14. recreated, 15. smartphones

16. The _____ destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.
- n.* a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
17. They had experienced the _____ of losing two children due to premature births.
- n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
18. The child was learning how to use an _____ in her math class.
- n.* a counting device consisting of a frame with rods or wires on which beads or stones are moved to perform arithmetic calculations
19. He deliberately read picture books in an _____ way to please the children.
- adj.* old and no longer used or applicable; of or seeming to belong to an ancient period in history

ANSWERS: 16. wildfire, 17. heartbreak, 18. abacus, 19. archaic