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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Richard St. John: 8 secrets of success | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/richard_st_john_8_secrets_of_success

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

presentation

n. the act of formally introducing or displaying something to others; the manner in which something is presented or given visually, verbally, or otherwise

synonym: exhibition, display, speech

(1) **presentation** skills, (2) **presentation** slides

She gave a fantastic **presentation** at the conference and received a standing ovation.

stud

n. a small object with a head on one end and a sharp point on the other, used for fastening clothing, leather, or other materials; an animal used for breeding, typically a male horse or bull that is of superior breeding stock; (verb) to decorate or adorn with studs; to provide with studs for support

synonym: beam, scantling, framing

(1) horse **stud**, (2) wall **stud**

He bought a new **stud** to attach the strap to his watch.

succeed

v. to accomplish or achieve a desired or intended result or goal; to prosper or attain success in a given field or endeavor

synonym: achieve, accomplish, triumph

(1) **succeed** beyond expectations, (2) **succeed** academically

I hope to **succeed** in my career and live a happy life.

tick *n.* a light, sharp, repetitive sound or action; a mark indicating that something is correct or has been done; any of two families of small parasitic arachnids with barbed proboscis
synonym : sound, noise, beat
(1) **tick** of the clock, (2) **tick** fever
I always put a **tick** mark next to the items on my grocery list after buying them.

passion *n.* intense, driving, or overpowering feeling or conviction
synonym : fervor, zeal, ardor
(1) **passion** hobby, (2) **passion** drive
Her **passion** for cooking is evident in every dish she prepares.

freeman *n.* a person who is not a serf or enslaved person and has the right to hold property and vote
synonym : citizen, individual, person
(1) **freeman** rights, (2) **freeman** status
In the colonial period, only **freeman** was allowed to vote.

carol *n.* a song or hymn typically sung at Christmas, often with a joyful or celebratory theme
synonym : song, hymn, anthem
(1) Christmas **carol**, (2) sing a **carol**
I love the sound of **carols** playing in the background while we decorate the Christmas tree.

workaholic *n.* a person who is addicted to work; a person who works excessively
synonym : workhorse, drudge
(1) **workaholic** habits, (2) self-proclaimed **workaholic**
The company's founder was a notorious **workaholic** who spent every waking hour building the business.

damn

v. to express disapproval of or disappointment in something or someone; to condemn or to curse; (a swear word) an expression of anger

synonym : curse, condemn, denounce

(1) **damn** the consequences, (2) **damn** with faint praise
The company's poor financial performance is likely to **damn** the CEO's chances of being re-elected to the board.

magic

n. beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers

synonym : fascination, illusion, wizardry

(1) a **magic** spell, (2) she is **magic**
He performed **magic** tricks with sophisticated moves.

Norman

adj. relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

synonym : medieval, antique, archaic

(1) **norman** cathedral, (2) **norman** invasion
The **Norman** architecture in the old city was a sight to behold.

physically

adv. in a way related to a person's body or appearance rather than their mind

(1) **physically** and mentally, (2) stay **physically** fit
Having a **physically** healthy physique is essential for a great life.

shyness

n. the quality or state of being worried or embarrassed about meeting and speaking to other people

synonym : bashfulness, timidity, modesty

(1) lose some of my **shyness**, (2) **shyness** barrier
He finally overcame his **shyness**.

self-doubt

n. lack of confidence in one's abilities or oneself
synonym : insecurity, uncertainty, diffident

(1) overcome **self-doubt**, (2) spiral of **self-doubt**
I was filled with **self-doubt**.

invention

n. the creation of a new device or process resulting from study and experimentation; the act of inventing

synonym : creation, design, innovation

(1) the **invention** of new techniques, (2) common **invention**
Necessity is the mother of **invention**.

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.

frank

adj. honest and sincere; open and candid in expression

synonym : candid, direct, freehearted

(1) **frank** and open discussion, (2) make a **frank** apology
Full involvement means **frank** and prompt responses.

privilege

n. a special right or advantage that only one person or group of people has, usually because they are rich and powerful in a society

synonym : benefit, authorization, advantage

(1) a breach of **privilege**, (2) **privilege** of membership
In the Middle Ages, the right to hunt in the wild was the **privilege** of royalty and nobility.

millionaire

n. a person who has material wealth that is valued at more than a million dollars, pounds, euros, etc.

(1) **millionaire** capitalist, (2) become a **millionaire**
The Internet **millionaire** was captivated by the artist's paintings.

software

n. a set of computer programs and associated documentation and data for doing particular

computational jobs

synonym : program, system, operating system

(1) **software** architect, (2) copyrighted **software**

The company specializes in both hardware and **software**.

creative

adj. relating to or involving the use of skill and original and unusual ideas to create something

synonym : imaginative, innovative, inventive

(1) **creative** writing, (2) barren of **creative** spirit

All the supervisor has to do is assign tasks that make his subordinates more **creative**.

persist

v. to continue to do and refuse to stop something despite difficulties or opposition, even if it appears unreasonable

synonym : endure, continue, carry on

(1) **persist** over time, (2) **persist** in success

Consult your doctor if the symptoms **persist**.

persistent

adj. continuing firmly or obstinately in the course of action despite difficulty or opposition; lasting or enduring without fading or being lost over time

synonym : tenacious, steadfast, unrelenting

(1) **persistent** cough, (2) **persistent** data

Despite the setbacks, he remained **persistent** in his pursuit of his dreams.

criticism

n. the act of analyzing, evaluating, or judging something, especially literary or artistic work, to find fault with it or to offer suggestions for improvement; the expression of disapproval or censure

synonym : critique, commentary, review

(1) **criticism** from the public, (2) harsh **criticism**

Constructive **criticism** is always helpful to help improving one's work.

rejection

n. the act of refusing to accept, use, or consider someone or something; in medicine, an immunological response

that refuses to accept substances or organisms that are recognized as foreign

synonym : refusal, denial, repudiation

(1) transplant **rejection**, (2) **rejection** by community

His proposals were met with **rejection**.

buck

n. a male deer; a unit of currency, especially the US dollar; a sudden jolt or movement; a young man; (verb) to resist or oppose something, such as an authority, trend, or convention

synonym : dollar, money, currency

(1) **buck** the trend, (2) extra **buck**

I spotted a majestic **buck** with large antlers standing at the forest's edge.

Session 2: Spelling

1. su____d beyond expectations *v.* to accomplish or achieve a desired or intended result or goal; to prosper or attain success in a given field or endeavor
2. Christmas ca__l *n.* a song or hymn typically sung at Christmas, often with a joyful or celebratory theme
3. lose some of my sh____s *n.* the quality or state of being worried or embarrassed about meeting and speaking to other people
4. fr____n rights *n.* a person who is not a serf or enslaved person and has the right to hold property and vote
5. barren of cr____ve spirit *adj.* relating to or involving the use of skill and original and unusual ideas to create something
6. pre____ion slides *n.* the act of formally introducing or displaying something to others; the manner in which something is presented or given visually, verbally, or otherwise
7. transplant re____on *n.* the act of refusing to accept, use, or consider someone or something; in medicine, an immunological response that refuses to accept substances or organisms that are recognized as foreign

ANSWERS: 1. succeed, 2. carol, 3. shyness, 4. freeman, 5. creative, 6. presentation, 7. rejection

8. t__k fever *n.* a light, sharp, repetitive sound or action; a mark indicating that something is correct or has been done; any of two families of small parasitic arachnids with barbed proboscis
9. the in_____on of new techniques *n.* the creation of a new device or process resulting from study and experimentation; the act of inventing
10. cr_____sm from the public *n.* the act of analyzing, evaluating, or judging something, especially literary or artistic work, to find fault with it or to offer suggestions for improvement; the expression of disapproval or censure
11. make a fr__k apology *adj.* honest and sincere; open and candid in expression
12. wall s__d *n.* a small object with a head on one end and a sharp point on the other, used for fastening clothing, leather, or other materials; an animal used for breeding, typically a male horse or bull that is of superior breeding stock; (verb) to decorate or adorn with studs; to provide with studs for support
13. pa_____n drive *n.* intense, driving, or overpowering feeling or conviction
14. extra b__k *n.* a male deer; a unit of currency, especially the US dollar; a sudden jolt or movement; a young man; (verb) to resist or oppose something, such as an authority, trend, or convention

ANSWERS: 8. tick, 9. invention, 10. criticism, 11. frank, 12. stud, 13. passion, 14. buck

15. no___n cathedral *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period
16. sing a ca__l *n.* a song or hymn typically sung at Christmas, often with a joyful or celebratory theme
17. mil_____re capitalist *n.* a person who has material wealth that is valued at more than a million dollars, pounds, euros, etc.
18. m__h attracted to the light *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
19. pre_____ion skills *n.* the act of formally introducing or displaying something to others; the manner in which something is presented or given visually, verbally, or otherwise
20. t__k of the clock *n.* a light, sharp, repetitive sound or action; a mark indicating that something is correct or has been done; any of two families of small parasitic arachnids with barbed proboscis
21. pr_____ge of membership *n.* a special right or advantage that only one person or group of people has, usually because they are rich and powerful in a society

ANSWERS: 15. Norman, 16. carol, 17. millionaire, 18. moth, 19. presentation, 20. tick, 21. privilege

22. phy_____ly and mentally *adv.* in a way related to a person's body or appearance rather than their mind
23. d__n with faint praise *v.* to express disapproval of or disappointment in something or someone; to condemn or to curse; (a swear word) an expression of anger
24. sh_____s barrier *n.* the quality or state of being worried or embarrassed about meeting and speaking to other people
25. m__h larva *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
26. no____n invasion *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period
27. common in_____on *n.* the creation of a new device or process resulting from study and experimentation; the act of inventing
28. wor_____ic habits *n.* a person who is addicted to work; a person who works excessively
29. re_____on by community *n.* the act of refusing to accept, use, or consider someone or something; in medicine, an immunological response that refuses to accept substances or organisms that are recognized as foreign

ANSWERS: 22. physically, 23. damn, 24. shyness, 25. moth, 26. Norman, 27. invention, 28. workaholic, 29. rejection

30. per_____nt data *adj.* continuing firmly or obstinately in the course of action despite difficulty or opposition; lasting or enduring without fading or being lost over time
31. pe_____t over time *v.* to continue to do and refuse to stop something despite difficulties or opposition, even if it appears unreasonable
32. b__k the trend *n.* a male deer; a unit of currency, especially the US dollar; a sudden jolt or movement; a young man; (verb) to resist or oppose something, such as an authority, trend, or convention
33. so_____re architect *n.* a set of computer programs and associated documentation and data for doing particular computational jobs
34. pe_____t in success *v.* to continue to do and refuse to stop something despite difficulties or opposition, even if it appears unreasonable
35. self-proclaimed wor_____ic *n.* a person who is addicted to work; a person who works excessively
36. a breach of pr_____ge *n.* a special right or advantage that only one person or group of people has, usually because they are rich and powerful in a society
37. fr__k and open discussion *adj.* honest and sincere; open and candid in expression
38. overcome sel_____bt *n.* lack of confidence in one's abilities or oneself

ANSWERS: 30. persistent, 31. persist, 32. buck, 33. software, 34. persist, 35. workaholic, 36. privilege, 37. frank, 38. self-doubt

39. su____d academically *v.* to accomplish or achieve a desired or intended result or goal; to prosper or attain success in a given field or endeavor
40. d__n the consequences *v.* to express disapproval of or disappointment in something or someone; to condemn or to curse; (a swear word) an expression of anger
41. horse s__d *n.* a small object with a head on one end and a sharp point on the other, used for fastening clothing, leather, or other materials; an animal used for breeding, typically a male horse or bull that is of superior breeding stock; (verb) to decorate or adorn with studs; to provide with studs for support
42. pa_____n hobby *n.* intense, driving, or overpowering feeling or conviction
43. copyrighted so_____re *n.* a set of computer programs and associated documentation and data for doing particular computational jobs
44. cr_____ve writing *adj.* relating to or involving the use of skill and original and unusual ideas to create something
45. harsh cr_____sm *n.* the act of analyzing, evaluating, or judging something, especially literary or artistic work, to find fault with it or to offer suggestions for improvement; the expression of disapproval or censure
46. she is ma__c *n.* beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers

ANSWERS: 39. succeed, 40. damn, 41. stud, 42. passion, 43. software, 44. creative, 45. criticism, 46. magic

47. per_____nt cough *adj.* continuing firmly or obstinately in the course of action despite difficulty or opposition; lasting or enduring without fading or being lost over time
48. stay phy_____ly fit *adv.* in a way related to a person's body or appearance rather than their mind
49. a ma__c spell *n.* beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers
50. fr_____n status *n.* a person who is not a serf or enslaved person and has the right to hold property and vote
51. spiral of sel_____bt *n.* lack of confidence in one's abilities or oneself
52. become a mil_____re *n.* a person who has material wealth that is valued at more than a million dollars, pounds, euros, etc.

ANSWERS: 47. persistent, 48. physically, 49. magic, 50. freeman, 51. self-doubt, 52. millionaire

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The company's founder was a notorious _____ who spent every waking hour building the business.
n. a person who is addicted to work; a person who works excessively

2. He bought a new _____ to attach the strap to his watch.
n. a small object with a head on one end and a sharp point on the other, used for fastening clothing, leather, or other materials; an animal used for breeding, typically a male horse or bull that is of superior breeding stock; (verb) to decorate or adorn with studs; to provide with studs for support

3. The company's poor financial performance is likely to _____ the CEO's chances of being re-elected to the board.
v. to express disapproval of or disappointment in something or someone; to condemn or to curse; (a swear word) an expression of anger

4. She gave a fantastic _____ at the conference and received a standing ovation.
n. the act of formally introducing or displaying something to others; the manner in which something is presented or given visually, verbally, or otherwise

5. The Internet _____ was captivated by the artist's paintings.
n. a person who has material wealth that is valued at more than a million dollars, pounds, euros, etc.

6. Her _____ for cooking is evident in every dish she prepares.
n. intense, driving, or overpowering feeling or conviction

7. Full involvement means _____ and prompt responses.
adj. honest and sincere; open and candid in expression

ANSWERS: 1. workaholic, 2. stud, 3. damn, 4. presentation, 5. millionaire, 6. passion, 7. frank

8. In the colonial period, only _____ was allowed to vote.
- n.* a person who is not a serf or enslaved person and has the right to hold property and vote
9. I love the sound of _____ playing in the background while we decorate the Christmas tree.
- n.* a song or hymn typically sung at Christmas, often with a joyful or celebratory theme
10. I spotted a majestic _____ with large antlers standing at the forest's edge.
- n.* a male deer; a unit of currency, especially the US dollar; a sudden jolt or movement; a young man; (verb) to resist or oppose something, such as an authority, trend, or convention
11. His proposals were met with _____.
- n.* the act of refusing to accept, use, or consider someone or something; in medicine, an immunological response that refuses to accept substances or organisms that are recognized as foreign
12. I always put a _____ mark next to the items on my grocery list after buying them.
- n.* a light, sharp, repetitive sound or action; a mark indicating that something is correct or has been done; any of two families of small parasitic arachnids with barbed proboscis
13. He finally overcame his _____.
- n.* the quality or state of being worried or embarrassed about meeting and speaking to other people
14. The _____ architecture in the old city was a sight to behold.
- adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

ANSWERS: 8. freeman, 9. carols, 10. buck, 11. rejection, 12. tick, 13. shyness, 14. Norman

15. All the supervisor has to do is assign tasks that make his subordinates more _____.

adj. relating to or involving the use of skill and original and unusual ideas to create something

16. I was filled with _____.

n. lack of confidence in one's abilities or oneself

17. He performed _____ tricks with sophisticated moves.

n. beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers

18. Consult your doctor if the symptoms _____.

v. to continue to do and refuse to stop something despite difficulties or opposition, even if it appears unreasonable

19. Having a _____ healthy physique is essential for a great life.

adv. in a way related to a person's body or appearance rather than their mind

20. The company specializes in both hardware and _____.

n. a set of computer programs and associated documentation and data for doing particular computational jobs

21. In the Middle Ages, the right to hunt in the wild was the _____ of royalty and nobility.

n. a special right or advantage that only one person or group of people has, usually because they are rich and powerful in a society

22. I hope to _____ in my career and live a happy life.

v. to accomplish or achieve a desired or intended result or goal; to prosper or attain success in a given field or endeavor

ANSWERS: 15. creative, 16. self-doubt, 17. magic, 18. persist, 19. physically, 20. software, 21. privilege, 22. succeed

23. Necessity is the mother of _____.

- n.* the creation of a new device or process resulting from study and experimentation; the act of inventing

24. 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

25. Constructive _____ is always helpful to help improving one's work.

- n.* the act of analyzing, evaluating, or judging something, especially literary or artistic work, to find fault with it or to offer suggestions for improvement; the expression of disapproval or censure

26. Despite the setbacks, he remained _____ in his pursuit of his dreams.

- adj.* continuing firmly or obstinately in the course of action despite difficulty or opposition; lasting or enduring without fading or being lost over time

ANSWERS: 23. invention, 24. moth, 25. criticism, 26. persistent