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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kate Fagan: Why people love watching sports | TED

Talk

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

ve_watching_sports



Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

forbid

- v. to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising synonym: prohibit, ban, outlaw
- (1) **forbid** smoking in public areas, (2) **forbid** the use of chemical weapons

God forbid you should regret your marriage.

cliche

 a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement

synonym: truism, platitude, stereotype

(1) cliche plot, (2) age-old cliche

Using the same **cliche** phrase in every conversation can take time and effort.

sardine

- a small saltwater fish that is often canned and used for food; a crowded or tightly packed space or area
- synonym: pilchard, anchovy, sprat
- (1) a sardine fishery, (2) grilled sardine

I opened the can of **sardines**, and the oily smell filled the room.

frenzy

 a state of wild, uncontrolled excitement or activity, often characterized by chaotic or irrational behavior

synonym: frenetic, commotion, tumult

(1) **frenzy** of activity, (2) buying **frenzy**

The shoppers were **frenzy** to get the best deals on Black Friday.

sawdust

n. fine particles or small chips of wood that are produced when the wood is sawed or cut, often used as a material for various purposes such as mulch, fuel, or animal bedding

synonym: wood shavings, particles, fragments

(1) **sawdust** on the floor, (2) mountain of **sawdust**The woodworker used a saw to create **sawdust** while making the chair.

pastime

 an activity that is enjoyable and done for leisure or entertainment purposes, such as a hobby or game

synonym: hobby, diversion, leisure activity

(1) a familiar pastime,(2) national pastimeI enjoy gardening as a pastime during my free time.

- breathless
- adj. feeling or causing a lack of breath, often due to exertion or excitement; intense or exciting to the point of causing a feeling of breathlessness

synonym: panting, winded, out of breath

(1) with **breathless** interest, (2) **breathless** anticipation After running up the stairs, I was left **breathless** and sweaty.

compel

v. to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

synonym: force, oblige, coerce

(1) **compel** a person to submission, (2) **compel** attention The strict deadlines will **compel** the team to work efficiently.

evenhanded

adj. treating everyone fairly and without bias; impartial or equitable

synonym: impartial, equitable, fair

(1) **evenhanded** approach, (2) **evenhanded** justice
The teacher graded the essays in an **evenhanded** manner,

treating each student fairly.

apex

n. the highest point or tip of something

synonym: summit, peak, zenith

(1) apex predator, (2) apex position

The company reached the **apex** of success in the market.

dunk

 to immerse or submerge briefly in a liquid, often repeatedly to coat or moisten; to slam or force something down into a container of liquid

synonym: dip, plunge, soak

(1) dunk in water, (2) dunk a basketball

I like to **dunk** my cookies in milk before eating them.

pinpoint

 ν . to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something

synonym: name, direct, identify

(1) **pinpoint** the problem, (2) **pinpoint** signs of manipulation This radar quickly **pinpoints** the position of the enemy.

transcend

- v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of somethingsynonym: surpass, exceed, overcome
- (1) **transcend** boundaries, (2) **transcend** limits

 The music **transcended** cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

fleeting

adj. brief or temporary, lasting only a short time synonym: temporary, brief, transitory

(1) for a **fleeting** moment, (2) **fleeting** opportunity

She savored the **fleeting** happiness she felt during the vacation.

storyline

 the central narrative or plot of a story, often involving a series of events or conflicts that move the story forward; the overall structure or arc of a story

synonym: plot, narrative

(1) follow a **storyline**, (2) predictable **storyline**The **storyline** of the movie was predictable but still entertaining.

storytelling

- n. the act or art of narrating or writing storiessynonym: narrating, relating, recounting
- (1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling** She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

teary

- adj. characterized by or containing tears; likely to cry;causing or evoking a feeling of sadness or emotionsynonym: tearful, weepy, emotional
- (1) **teary** confession, (2) **teary** goodbye

 After watching the sad movie, I was left **teary-eyed** and emotional.

vignette

 a brief or short descriptive account, episode, or story that focuses on a particular moment, person, or object; a small decorative design or illustration

synonym: sketch, drawing, illustration

(1) poignant **vignette**, (2) **vignette** from the incident The novel has a series of **vignettes** that showcase the everyday struggles of its characters.

gymnast

 a person who performs physical exercises or feats of agility, strength, balance, and coordination, often for sport or entertainment

synonym: acrobat, tumbler, contortionist

(1) talented **gymnast**, (2) female **gymnast**The Olympic **gymnast** performed a flawless routine on the balance beam and received a perfect ten score.

bland

adj. lacking in strong flavor, character, or interest; unremarkable or unexciting

synonym: boring, insipid, flavorless

(1) make a **bland** reply, (2) **bland** novel

The dinner was rather **bland** and in need of some seasoning.

redo

v. to do again, usually to correct or improve upon a previous attempt; to renovate or redesign something to make it better or more suitable

synonym: revise, remake, rework

(1) **redo** a kitchen, (2) **redo** a project

I had to **redo** my entire presentation because the formatting was off.

microcosm

 a miniature or small-scale version of something that represents the larger whole or system; a representation of society or culture on a smaller scale

synonym: miniature, tiny world, little universe

(1) soil microcosm, (2) environmental microcosm

The small town felt like a **microcosm** of the larger society.

imaginable

adj. capable of being imagined

synonym: conceivable, plausible, possible

(1) easily **imaginable**, (2) worst **imaginable** case This is the only **imaginable** strategy.

osmosis

n. the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another

synonym: diffusion, permeation, absorption

(1) osmosis process, (2) osmosis tube

The roots of plants absorb water and nutrients through osmosis.

tribune

n. an official in ancient Rome who represented various social groups and had the power to veto decisions made by other officials; a platform or elevated area used for speaking or addressing a public audience

synonym: platform, podium, stand

(1) the position of **tribune**, (2) editorial **tribune**

The politician delivered his speech from the **tribune** to a crowd of cheering supporters.

intracity

 relating to, occurring within, or connecting different parts or areas within a city, as opposed to connecting different cities or regions

synonym: within-city, metro, intra-municipal

(1) intracity transport, (2) intracity travel

The **intracity** busing system makes getting around town without a car easy.

ardor

 intense enthusiasm or passion for something; fervor, zeal, or eagerness

synonym: zeal, passion, enthusiasm

(1) youthful ardor, (2) inspire ardor

The couple's **ardor** for each other was evident in their affectionate gestures.

riot

a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd,
 characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson,
 and attacks on individuals

synonym: disturbance, unrest, upheaval

(1) riot police, (2) riot control gas

The **riots** in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.

recap

v. to repeat or summarize what has been said, decided, etc.

synonym: outline, summarize, abstract

(1) **recap** key points, (2) **recap** briefly

Let me quickly **recap** these results.

villain

 a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel

synonym: scoundrel, rogue, antagonist

(1) evil villain, (2) authoritarian villain

The **villain** in the movie was a complex character with a tragic backstory.

pathological

adj. relating to or caused by a physical or mental disease or disorder; extreme or abnormal in a way that is harmful or unhealthy

synonym: aberrant, diseased, abnormal

(1) pathological liar, (2) pathological condition

The doctor was concerned that the patient's **pathological** fear of germs impacted their daily life.

elevate

v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

synonym: lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

reluctantly

adv. in a way that you are unwilling to do something; with hesitation

synonym: unwillingly, hesitantly, grudgingly

(1) **reluctantly** approve the idea, (2) **reluctantly** leave He **reluctantly** agreed to go to the party.

Session 2: Spelling

1.	eve	ed	approach	1

- 2. rel____ly leave
- 3. tr____nd boundaries
- 4. os___s process

- 5. mountain of sa____t
- 6. follow a st____ne
- 7. tr____nd limits
- 8. re__p briefly

- adj. treating everyone fairly and without bias; impartial or equitable
- adv. in a way that you are unwilling to do something; with hesitation
- v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
- n. the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another
- n. fine particles or small chips of wood that are produced when the wood is sawed or cut, often used as a material for various purposes such as mulch, fuel, or animal bedding
- n. the central narrative or plot of a story, often involving a series of events or conflicts that move the story forward; the overall structure or arc of a story
- v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
- v. to repeat or summarize what has been said, decided, etc.

ANSWERS: 1. evenhanded, 2. reluctantly, 3. transcend, 4. osmosis, 5. sawdust, 6. storyline, 7. transcend, 8. recap

9.	ro a kitchen	ν.	to do again, usually to correct or improve upon a previous attempt; to renovate or redesign something to make it better or more suitable
10.	coI a person to submission	ν.	to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
11.	pint signs of manipulation	<i>v</i> .	to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
12.	coI attention	v.	to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
13.	soil mism	n.	a miniature or small-scale version of something that represents the larger whole or system; a representation of society or culture on a smaller scale
14.	youthful arr	n.	intense enthusiasm or passion for something; fervor, zeal, or eagerness
15.	ax position	n.	the highest point or tip of something
16.	environmental mism	n.	a miniature or small-scale version of something that represents the larger whole or system; a representation of society or culture on a smaller scale
17.	for a flng moment	adj.	brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
18.	fod the use of chemical weapons	v.	to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising

ANSWERS: 9. redo, 10. compel, 11. pinpoint, 12. compel, 13. microcosm, 14. ardor, 15. apex, 16. microcosm, 17. fleeting, 18. forbid

19.	patcal condition	adj.	relating to or caused by a physical or mental disease or disorder; extreme or abnormal in a way that is harmful or unhealthy
20.	female gyt	n.	a person who performs physical exercises or feats of agility, strength, balance, and coordination, often for sport or entertainment
21.	bld novel	adj.	lacking in strong flavor, character, or interest; unremarkable or unexciting
22.	bress anticipation	adj.	feeling or causing a lack of breath, often due to exertion or excitement; intense or exciting to the point of causing a feeling of breathlessness
23.	relly approve the idea	adv.	in a way that you are unwilling to do something; with hesitation
24.	ele educational standards	ν.	to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
25.	cle plot	n.	a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
26.	d_k a basketball	ν.	to immerse or submerge briefly in a liquid, often repeatedly to coat or moisten; to slam or force something down into a container of liquid
27.	a familiar pae	n.	an activity that is enjoyable and done for leisure or entertainment purposes, such as a hobby or game

ANSWERS: 19. pathological, 20. gymnast, 21. bland, 22. breathless, 23. reluctantly, 24. elevate, 25. cliche, 26. dunk, 27. pastime

28.	poignant vite	n.	a brief or short descriptive account, episode, or story that focuses on a particular moment, person, or object; a small decorative design or illustration
29.	national pae	n.	an activity that is enjoyable and done for leisure or entertainment purposes, such as a hobby or game
30.	dk in water	ν.	to immerse or submerge briefly in a liquid, often repeatedly to coat or moisten; to slam or force something down into a container of liquid
31.	pint the problem	v.	to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
32.	grilled sae	n.	a small saltwater fish that is often canned and used for food; a crowded of tightly packed space or area
33.	buying fry	n.	a state of wild, uncontrolled excitement or activity, often characterized by chaotic or irrational behavior
34.	editorial tre	n.	an official in ancient Rome who represented various social groups and had the power to veto decisions made by other officials; a platform or elevated area used for speaking or addressing a public audience
35.	sat on the floor	n.	fine particles or small chips of wood that are produced when the wood is sawed or cut, often used as a material for various purposes such as mulch, fuel, or animal bedding

ANSWERS: 28. vignette, 29. pastime, 30. dunk, 31. pinpoint, 32. sardine, 33. frenzy, 34. tribune, 35. sawdust

36.	ro a project	ν.	to do again, usually to correct or improve upon a previous attempt; to renovate or redesign something to make it better or more suitable
37.	stoing performance	n.	the act or art of narrating or writing stories
38.	fry of activity	n.	a state of wild, uncontrolled excitement or activity, often characterized by chaotic or irrational behavior
39.	courtroom stoing	n.	the act or art of narrating or writing stories
40.	the position of tre	n.	an official in ancient Rome who represented various social groups and had the power to veto decisions made by other officials; a platform or elevated area used for speaking or addressing a public audience
41.	ax predator	n.	the highest point or tip of something
42.	evil vin	n.	a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
43.	make a bld reply	adj.	lacking in strong flavor, character, or interest; unremarkable or unexciting
44.	inty transport	n.	relating to, occurring within, or connecting different parts or areas within a city, as opposed to connecting different cities or regions
45.	rt police	n.	a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

ANSWERS: 36. redo, 37. storytelling, 38. frenzy, 39. storytelling, 40. tribune, 41. apex, 42. villain, 43. bland, 44. intracity, 45. riot

46.	inty travel	n.	relating to, occurring within, or connecting different parts or areas within a city, as opposed to connecting different cities or regions
47.	tey confession	adj.	characterized by or containing tears; likely to cry; causing or evoking a feeling of sadness or emotion
48.	with bress interest	adj.	feeling or causing a lack of breath, often due to exertion or excitement; intense or exciting to the point of causing a feeling of breathlessness
49.	a sae fishery	n.	a small saltwater fish that is often canned and used for food; a crowded or tightly packed space or area
50.	easily imale	adj.	capable of being imagined
51.	inspire arr	n.	intense enthusiasm or passion for something; fervor, zeal, or eagerness
52.	age-old cle	n.	a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
53.	vite from the incident	n.	a brief or short descriptive account, episode, or story that focuses on a particular moment, person, or object; a small decorative design or illustration
54.	predictable stne	n.	the central narrative or plot of a story, often involving a series of events or conflicts that move the story forward; the overall structure or arc of a story

ANSWERS: 46. intracity, 47. teary, 48. breathless, 49. sardine, 50. imaginable, 51. ardor, 52. cliche, 53. vignette, 54. storyline

55.	patcal liar	adj.	relating to or caused by a physical or mental disease or disorder; extreme or abnormal in a way that is harmful or unhealthy
56.	authoritarian vin	n.	a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
57.	rt control gas	n.	a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
58.	flng opportunity	adj.	brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
59.	tey goodbye	adj.	characterized by or containing tears; likely to cry; causing or evoking a feeling of sadness or emotion
60.	oss tube	n.	the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another
61.	fod smoking in public areas	v.	to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
62.	rep key points	<i>v</i> .	to repeat or summarize what has been said, decided, etc.
63.	ele a close relationship	ν.	to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

ANSWERS: 55. pathological, 56. villain, 57. riot, 58. fleeting, 59. teary, 60. osmosis, 61. forbid, 62. recap, 63. elevate

64. talented gyt	 a person who performs physical exercises or feats of agility, strength balance, and coordination, often for sport or entertainment
65. worst imale case	adj. capable of being imagined
66. eveed justice	adj. treating everyone fairly and without bias; impartial or equitable

ANSWERS: 64. gymnast, 65. imaginable, 66. evenhanded

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1.	The doctor was concerned that the patient's fear of germs impacted their daily life.
adj	relating to or caused by a physical or mental disease or disorder; extreme or abnormal in a way that is harmful or unhealthy
2.	The teacher graded the essays in an manner, treating each student fairly.
adj	treating everyone fairly and without bias; impartial or equitable
3. n.	Using the same phrase in every conversation can take time and effort. a phrase or expression that has become overused to the point that it has lost its original impact or meaning; a trite or unoriginal idea or statement
4.	The politician delivered his speech from the to a crowd of cheering supporters.
n.	an official in ancient Rome who represented various social groups and had the power to veto decisions made by other officials; a platform or elevated area used for speaking or addressing a public audience
5.	The company reached the of success in the market.
n.	the highest point or tip of something
6.	The busing system makes getting around town without a car easy.
n.	relating to, occurring within, or connecting different parts or areas within a city, as opposed to connecting different cities or regions
7.	God you should regret your marriage.
ν.	to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
	SWERS: 1. pathological, 2. evenhanded, 3. cliche, 4. tribune, 5. apex, 6. intracity, orbid

8.	I had to my entire presentation because the formatting was off.
ν.	to do again, usually to correct or improve upon a previous attempt; to renovate or redesign something to make it better or more suitable
9.	The music cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.
v.	to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
10.	This is the only strategy.
adj	capable of being imagined
11.	This radar quickly the position of the enemy.
v.	to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
12.	The shoppers were to get the best deals on Black Friday.
n.	a state of wild, uncontrolled excitement or activity, often characterized by chaotic or irrational behavior
13.	The in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.
n.	a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals
14.	The woodworker used a saw to create while making the chair.
n.	fine particles or small chips of wood that are produced when the wood is sawed or cut, often used as a material for various purposes such as mulch, fuel, or animal bedding
15.	The strict deadlines will the team to work efficiently.
ν.	to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
	SWERS: 8. redo, 9. transcended, 10. imaginable, 11. pinpoints, 12. frenzy, 13. s, 14. sawdust, 15. compel

16. Eating food in a hurry blood glucose levels.
ν . to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
17. I like to my cookies in milk before eating them.
v. to immerse or submerge briefly in a liquid, often repeatedly to coat or moisten to slam or force something down into a container of liquid
18. The couple's for each other was evident in their affectionate gestures.
n. intense enthusiasm or passion for something; fervor, zeal, or eagerness
19. I enjoy gardening as a during my free time.
 an activity that is enjoyable and done for leisure or entertainment purposes, such as a hobby or game
20. He agreed to go to the party.
adv. in a way that you are unwilling to do something; with hesitation
21. After watching the sad movie, I was left and emotional.
adj. characterized by or containing tears; likely to cry; causing or evoking a feeling of sadness or emotion
22. The of the movie was predictable but still entertaining.
n. the central narrative or plot of a story, often involving a series of events or conflicts that move the story forward; the overall structure or arc of a story
23. The dinner was rather and in need of some seasoning.
adj. lacking in strong flavor, character, or interest; unremarkable or unexciting
ANSWERS: 16. elevates, 17. dunk, 18. ardor, 19. pastime, 20. reluctantly, 21. teary-eyed, 22. storyline, 23. bland

24.	After running up the stairs, I was left and sweaty.
adj	feeling or causing a lack of breath, often due to exertion or excitement; intense or exciting to the point of causing a feeling of breathlessness
25.	Let me quickly these results.
<i>v</i> .	to repeat or summarize what has been said, decided, etc.
26.	The Olympic performed a flawless routine on the balance beam and received a perfect ten score.
n.	a person who performs physical exercises or feats of agility, strength, balance, and coordination, often for sport or entertainment
27.	The small town felt like a of the larger society.
n.	a miniature or small-scale version of something that represents the larger whole or system; a representation of society or culture on a smaller scale
28.	I opened the can of and the oily smell filled the room.
n.	a small saltwater fish that is often canned and used for food; a crowded or tightly packed space or area
29.	The roots of plants absorb water and nutrients through
n.	the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another
30.	The in the movie was a complex character with a tragic backstory.
n.	a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
	SWERS: 24. breathless, 25. recap, 26. gymnast, 27. microcosm, 28. sardines, 29 nosis, 30. villain

31.	She savored the happiness she felt during the vacation.
adj	brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
32.	The novel has a series of that showcase the everyday struggles of its characters.
n.	a brief or short descriptive account, episode, or story that focuses on a particular moment, person, or object; a small decorative design or illustration
33.	She was skilled in techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
n.	the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 31. fleeting, 32. vignettes, 33. storytelling