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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Timothy Williams: Ugly History: Cambodian Genocide
| TED Talk*

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

perpetrate

v. to commit or carry out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception; to be responsible for the creation or continuation of a negative situation

synonym : commit, perform, execute

(1) **perpetrate** harassment, (2) **perpetrate** a fraud

The criminal decided to **perpetrate** another robbery despite his previous arrest.

starvation

n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death

synonym : hunger, malnutrition, emaciation

(1) die of **starvation**, (2) **starvation** wages

The drought led to widespread **starvation** in the region.

exhaustion

n. the state of being extremely tired and lacking energy or strength

synonym : fatigue, weariness, tiredness

(1) **exhaustion** of energy, (2) emotional **exhaustion**

The long work hours were taking a toll on her mental **exhaustion**.

overwork

v. to work excessively hard or too much; the condition of working excessively or beyond one's capacity, leading to fatigue, stress, and illness

synonym : overdo, overtax, exhaust

(1) die from **overwork**, (2) **overwork** to compensate

He **overworked** himself and ended up getting sick.

turmoil

n. a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions

synonym : chaos, confusion, disorder

(1) political **turmoil**, (2) the **turmoil** of the war

The company experienced financial **turmoil** after the CEO was arrested.

monarch

n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen

synonym : ruler, sovereign, majesty

(1) an absolute **monarch**, (2) **monarch** butterflies

She came from a commoner background but eventually became the **monarch** of that country.

provoke

v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect

synonym : stimulate, incite, encourage

(1) **provoke** a disease, (2) **provoke** a reaction

Her behavior **provoked** a quarrel between the couple.

militant

n. willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal

synonym : combative, aggressive, bellicose

(1) **militant** nations, (2) a **militant** reformer

The **militant** group launched a series of attacks on government buildings.

overthrow

v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force

synonym : defeat, destroy, conquer

(1) **overthrow** the government, (2) **overthrow** the theory

The group aims to **overthrow** the military regime.

troop

n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

synonym: group, unit, band

(1) the members of a military **troop**, (2) a **troop** of deer
The **troop** of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.

classless

adj. lacking in social or economic classes; not differentiated by social status, rank, or privilege

synonym: egalitarian, unstructured, equal

(1) **classless** culture, (2) **classless** education

In a truly **classless** society, everyone would have equal opportunities and resources.

imp

n. a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore

synonym: demon, sprite, mischievous child

(1) a little **imp**, (2) behave like an **imp**

The mischievous **imp** caused trouble wherever it went.

self-sufficient

adj. able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others

synonym: independent, self-reliant, self-sustaining

(1) **self-sufficient** economy, (2) **self-sufficient** renewable energy

He was determined to become **self-sufficient** and not rely on anyone else.

erupt

v. (of a volcano) to become active and eject rocks, smoke, etc.; to start abruptly and violently

synonym: eject, emit, burst

(1) **erupt** in anger, (2) **erupt** into tears

Battles between whites and blacks **erupted** immediately.

conquer

v. to bring under control by force or authority

synonym: defeat, overpower, subdue

(1) **conquer** fatal disease, (2) **conquer** the world
You must **conquer** your anxiety about driving.

evacuate

v. to remove people or things from a place of danger or threat; to leave or abandon a place or situation, often due to fear or risk

synonym: empty, clear out, vacate

(1) **evacuate** the building, (2) **evacuate** civilians

The town was forced to **evacuate** due to the hurricane approaching.

outlaw

v. to make something illegal; (noun) a person who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime

synonym: ban, prohibit, (noun) bandit

(1) **outlaw** racial discrimination, (2) **outlaw** cloning of human cells

Some communities began to **outlaw** alcohol consumption.

prioritize

v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

synonym: rank, order, arrange

(1) **prioritize** tasks, (2) **prioritize** people over cars

The organization **prioritized** the needs of the community in its decision-making.

malnutrition

n. the condition of having an improper or inadequate diet, typically resulting in weakness, illness, and developmental problems; the state of being undernourished or lacking essential nutrients

synonym: undernourishment, starvation, hunger

(1) severe **malnutrition**, (2) childhood **malnutrition**

The doctor advised the patient to eat a balanced diet to avoid **malnutrition**.

paranoid

adj. unreasonably or obsessively believing that other people do not like you or want to harm you

(1) **paranoid** about issues, (2) **paranoid** disorder

A **paranoid** person may have delusions that people want to harm.

sabotage

n. the deliberate and malicious damage, destruction, or disruption of equipment, machinery, or other property, often by someone with a particular agenda or motive; the subversion of an organization or institution by secret agents or spies

synonym : sabotage, subversion, destruction

(1) act of **sabotage**, (2) **sabotage** mission

The **sabotage** of the factory's equipment caused significant damage.

arresting

adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something

synonym : striking, impressive, captivating

(1) an **arresting** image, (2) an **arresting** sight

The painting's **arresting** beauty made it difficult to look away.

upheaval

n. great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation

synonym : disturbance, turmoil, upheaval

(1) **upheaval** of society, (2) the big **upheaval** of my life

The recent political **upheaval** has left the country in a state of chaos.

topmost

adj. situated at or forming the highest or uppermost point; highest or most prominent on a list or ranking

synonym : highest, uppermost, peak

(1) **topmost** peak, (2) **topmost** priority

The **topmost** floor of the skyscraper offered a breathtaking view of the city skyline.

perpetrator

n. a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception

synonym : culprit, wrongdoer, offender

(1) **perpetrator** identity, (2) culprit **perpetrator**

The police have not yet caught the **perpetrator** of the crime.

courtroom

n. a room in which a court of law is held

synonym : law court, tribunal

(1) **courtroom** drama, (2) **courtroom** trial

The eyewitness took the stand in the **courtroom** and gave testimony crucial to the case.

paranoia

n. a mental condition characterized by delusions of persecution, unwarranted jealousy, or exaggerated self-importance, typically compounded by feelings of anxiety or irritability

synonym : suspicion, mistrust, delusions

(1) encourage **paranoia**, (2) suffering from **paranoia**

His **paranoia** about being followed made him constantly look over his shoulder.

tempting

adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

synonym : alluring, attractive, inviting

(1) **tempting** offer, (2) sound very **tempting**

The chocolate cake was too **tempting** for me to resist.

simplistic

adj. oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms

synonym : basic, uncomplicated, elementary

(1) **simplistic** approach, (2) **simplistic** design

The politician's solution to the problem was too **simplistic** to solve the underlying issue.

oppress

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

synonym : antagonize, distress, burden

(1) **oppress** the minority, (2) **oppress** the people with force
Historically, many countries have often **oppressed** certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

shatter

v. to break suddenly into many pieces

synonym : break, crash, destroy

(1) **shatter** the plate, (2) **shatter** a world record
Her husband's death **shattered** her life entirely.

Session 2: Spelling

1. op_____s the people with force
v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
2. te_____ng offer
adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
3. act of sa_____ge
n. the deliberate and malicious damage, destruction, or disruption of equipment, machinery, or other property, often by someone with a particular agenda or motive; the subversion of an organization or institution by secret agents or spies
4. encourage pa_____ia
n. a mental condition characterized by delusions of persecution, unwarranted jealousy, or exaggerated self-importance, typically compounded by feelings of anxiety or irritability
5. pr_____e a reaction
v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
6. an ar_____ng image
adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
7. sim_____ic design
adj. oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms

ANSWERS: 1. oppress, 2. tempting, 3. sabotage, 4. paranoia, 5. provoke, 6. arresting, 7. simplistic

8. suffering from pa_____ia *n.* a mental condition characterized by delusions of persecution, unwarranted jealousy, or exaggerated self-importance, typically compounded by feelings of anxiety or irritability
9. op_____s the minority *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
10. ov_____ow the government *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
11. political tu_____l *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
12. pa_____id disorder *adj.* unreasonably or obsessively believing that other people do not like you or want to harm you
13. childhood mal_____ion *n.* the condition of having an improper or inadequate diet, typically resulting in weakness, illness, and developmental problems; the state of being undernourished or lacking essential nutrients
14. ov_____ow the theory *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
15. sound very te_____ng *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

ANSWERS: 8. paranoia, 9. oppress, 10. overthrow, 11. turmoil, 12. paranoid, 13. malnutrition, 14. overthrow, 15. tempting

16. sta_____on wages *n.* a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
17. a mi_____nt reformer *n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
18. cl_____ss education *adj.* lacking in social or economic classes; not differentiated by social status, rank, or privilege
19. to_____t priority *adj.* situated at or forming the highest or uppermost point; highest or most prominent on a list or ranking
20. sh_____r a world record *v.* to break suddenly into many pieces
21. ov_____rk to compensate *v.* to work excessively hard or too much; the condition of working excessively or beyond one's capacity, leading to fatigue, stress, and illness
22. pri_____ze tasks *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
23. emotional exh_____on *n.* the state of being extremely tired and lacking energy or strength
24. er__t in anger *v.* (of a volcano) to become active and eject rocks, smoke, etc.; to start abruptly and violently
25. mo_____h butterflies *n.* a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
26. an ar_____ng sight *adj.* attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something

ANSWERS: 16. starvation, 17. militant, 18. classless, 19. topmost, 20. shatter, 21. overwork, 22. prioritize, 23. exhaustion, 24. erupt, 25. monarch, 26. arresting

27. per_____or identity *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
28. sh_____r the plate *v.* to break suddenly into many pieces
29. up_____al of society *n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
30. culprit per_____or *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
31. the big up_____al of my life *n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
32. an absolute mo_____h *n.* a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
33. per_____te harassment *v.* to commit or carry out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception; to be responsible for the creation or continuation of a negative situation
34. sa_____ge mission *n.* the deliberate and malicious damage, destruction, or disruption of equipment, machinery, or other property, often by someone with a particular agenda or motive; the subversion of an organization or institution by secret agents or spies
35. to_____t peak *adj.* situated at or forming the highest or uppermost point; highest or most prominent on a list or ranking

ANSWERS: 27. perpetrator, 28. shatter, 29. upheaval, 30. perpetrator, 31. upheaval, 32. monarch, 33. perpetrate, 34. sabotage, 35. topmost

36. co____r the world *v.* to bring under control by force or authority
37. the members of a military tr__p *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
38. the tu____l of the war *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
39. ou____w racial discrimination *v.* to make something illegal; (noun) a person who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime
40. cl____ss culture *adj.* lacking in social or economic classes; not differentiated by social status, rank, or privilege
41. pri____ze people over cars *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
42. ev____te civilians *v.* to remove people or things from a place of danger or threat; to leave or abandon a place or situation, often due to fear or risk
43. ev____te the building *v.* to remove people or things from a place of danger or threat; to leave or abandon a place or situation, often due to fear or risk
44. behave like an i_p *n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore
45. er__t into tears *v.* (of a volcano) to become active and eject rocks, smoke, etc.; to start abruptly and violently

ANSWERS: 36. conquer, 37. troop, 38. turmoil, 39. outlaw, 40. classless, 41. prioritize, 42. evacuate, 43. evacuate, 44. imp, 45. erupt

46. die from ov____rk *v.* to work excessively hard or too much; the condition of working excessively or beyond one's capacity, leading to fatigue, stress, and illness
47. exh_____on of energy *n.* the state of being extremely tired and lacking energy or strength
48. sel_____ent renewable energy *adj.* able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others
49. die of sta_____on *n.* a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
50. pr_____e a disease *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
51. sel_____ent economy *adj.* able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others
52. ou___w cloning of human cells *v.* to make something illegal; (noun) a person who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime
53. a tr__p of deer *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
54. co_____om trial *n.* a room in which a court of law is held
55. sim_____ic approach *adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
56. pa_____id about issues *adj.* unreasonably or obsessively believing that other people do not like you or want to harm you

ANSWERS: 46. overwork, 47. exhaustion, 48. self-sufficient, 49. starvation, 50. provoke, 51. self-sufficient, 52. outlaw, 53. troop, 54. courtroom, 55. simplistic, 56. paranoid

57. per_____te a fraud *v.* to commit or carry out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception; to be responsible for the creation or continuation of a negative situation
58. a little i_p *n.* a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore
59. co_____r fatal disease *v.* to bring under control by force or authority
60. mi_____nt nations *n.* willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
61. severe mal_____ion *n.* the condition of having an improper or inadequate diet, typically resulting in weakness, illness, and developmental problems; the state of being undernourished or lacking essential nutrients
62. co_____om drama *n.* a room in which a court of law is held

ANSWERS: 57. perpetrate, 58. imp, 59. conquer, 60. militant, 61. malnutrition, 62. courtroom

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Historically, many countries have often _____ certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.
 - v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
2. The long work hours were taking a toll on her mental _____.
 - n. the state of being extremely tired and lacking energy or strength
3. The _____ floor of the skyscraper offered a breathtaking view of the city skyline.
 - adj. situated at or forming the highest or uppermost point; highest or most prominent on a list or ranking
4. A _____ person may have delusions that people want to harm.
 - adj. unreasonably or obsessively believing that other people do not like you or want to harm you
5. The group aims to _____ the military regime.
 - v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
6. Her behavior _____ a quarrel between the couple.
 - v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
7. Battles between whites and blacks _____ immediately.
 - v. (of a volcano) to become active and eject rocks, smoke, etc.; to start abruptly and violently

ANSWERS: 1. oppressed, 2. exhaustion, 3. topmost, 4. paranoid, 5. overthrow, 6. provoked, 7. erupted

8. The drought led to widespread _____ in the region.
n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
9. She came from a commoner background but eventually became the _____ of that country.
n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
10. The company experienced financial _____ after the CEO was arrested.
n. a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
11. The recent political _____ has left the country in a state of chaos.
n. great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
12. The _____ of the factory's equipment caused significant damage.
n. the deliberate and malicious damage, destruction, or disruption of equipment, machinery, or other property, often by someone with a particular agenda or motive; the subversion of an organization or institution by secret agents or spies
13. The town was forced to _____ due to the hurricane approaching.
v. to remove people or things from a place of danger or threat; to leave or abandon a place or situation, often due to fear or risk
14. His _____ about being followed made him constantly look over his shoulder.
n. a mental condition characterized by delusions of persecution, unwarranted jealousy, or exaggerated self-importance, typically compounded by feelings of anxiety or irritability

ANSWERS: 8. starvation, 9. monarch, 10. turmoil, 11. upheaval, 12. sabotage, 13. evacuate, 14. paranoia

15. The eyewitness took the stand in the _____ and gave testimony crucial to the case.
n. a room in which a court of law is held
16. In a truly _____ society, everyone would have equal opportunities and resources.
adj. lacking in social or economic classes; not differentiated by social status, rank, or privilege
17. The politician's solution to the problem was too _____ to solve the underlying issue.
adj. oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
18. The organization _____ the needs of the community in its decision-making.
v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
19. The _____ group launched a series of attacks on government buildings.
n. willing to use force or violence to achieve a political or social goal
20. Her husband's death _____ her life entirely.
v. to break suddenly into many pieces
21. The _____ of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.
n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
22. The criminal decided to _____ another robbery despite his previous arrest.
v. to commit or carry out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception; to be responsible for the creation or continuation of a negative situation

ANSWERS: 15. courtroom, 16. classless, 17. simplistic, 18. prioritized, 19. militant, 20. shattered, 21. troop, 22. perpetrate

23. He _____ himself and ended up getting sick.
v. to work excessively hard or too much; the condition of working excessively or beyond one's capacity, leading to fatigue, stress, and illness
24. The doctor advised the patient to eat a balanced diet to avoid _____.
n. the condition of having an improper or inadequate diet, typically resulting in weakness, illness, and developmental problems; the state of being undernourished or lacking essential nutrients
25. He was determined to become _____ and not rely on anyone else.
adj. able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others
26. The painting's _____ beauty made it difficult to look away.
adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
27. The mischievous ____ caused trouble wherever it went.
n. a mischievous or misbehaving child; a small and mischievous demon or sprite in folklore
28. The chocolate cake was too _____ for me to resist.
adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
29. The police have not yet caught the _____ of the crime.
n. a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
30. Some communities began to _____ alcohol consumption.
v. to make something illegal; (noun) a person who has committed a crime or has been legally convicted of a crime

ANSWERS: 23. overworked, 24. malnutrition, 25. self-sufficient, 26. arresting, 27. imp, 28. tempting, 29. perpetrator, 30. outlaw

31. You must _____ your anxiety about driving.

v. to bring under control by force or authority

ANSWERS: 31. conquer