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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kevin Ehrman-Solberg and Kirsten Delegard: The dark history of the suburbs | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/kevin\\_ehrman\\_solberg\\_and\\_kirsten\\_delegard\\_the\\_dark\\_history\\_of\\_the\\_suburbs](https://www.ted.com/talks/kevin_ehrman_solberg_and_kirsten_delegard_the_dark_history_of_the_suburbs)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### affluent

*adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth

*synonym*: wealthy, rich, prosperous

(1) **affluent** society, (2) live in **affluent** circumstances

She lived in an **affluent** neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.

### ripple

*n.* a small wave on the surface of a liquid, typically caused by an object falling into it or a slight wind

*synonym*: wave, undulation, fluctuation

(1) a **ripple** of laughter, (2) **ripple** in the water

Many businesses felt the **ripple** effect of the economy's decline.

### harass

*v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention

*synonym*: pester, annoy, bother

(1) **harass** the enemy, (2) **harass** with constant criticism

She was constantly **harassed** by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.

## 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.

## segregate

*v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic

*synonym* : isolate, separate, divide

(1) **segregate** by race, (2) **segregate** boys and girls

The school board decided to **segregate** students by the ability to meet their needs better.

## encompass

*v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely

*synonym* : surround, encircle, include

(1) **encompass** a broad range, (2) **encompass** the enemy

The optimal solution that would **encompass** all these elements has yet to be proposed.

## underwrite

*v.* to assume financial responsibility for something

*synonym* : insure, guarantee, cover

(1) **underwrite** a loan, (2) **underwrite** an issue of shares

The insurance company decided to **underwrite** the policy for the new building.

## outset

*n.* the beginning of something

*synonym* : beginning, start, initiation

(1) month's **outset**, (2) the **outset** of the crisis

At the **outset** of the project, we encountered several obstacles.

## postwar

*adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies

*synonym* : subsequent, aftermath

(1) **postwar** years, (2) **postwar** society

The **postwar** period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.

## pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

*synonym* : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

## guzzle

v. to drink something quickly, greedily, and usually in large amounts.

*synonym* : gobble, carouse, quaff

(1) **guzzle** beer, (2) **guzzle** their food

They **guzzled** the cheap vodka.

## diffuse

*adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place

*synonym* : spread, scatter

(1) **diffuse** bleeding, (2) **diffuse** cloud

Direct lighting is preferable to **diffuse** lighting when reading.

## necessitate

v. to make something necessary or essential; to require something as a condition or consequence

*synonym* : require, demand, entail

(1) **necessitate** compromise, (2) **necessitate** action

The new law will **necessitate** changes in our current procedures.

## quadruple

v. to consist of four items or people; to become four times as great or many

(1) **quadruple** the amount, (2) **quadruple** the price of gold

His stock earnings **quadrupled**.

## redline

*n.* a boundary or threshold beyond which something is no longer acceptable or allowed; a mark or line drawn in red to indicate a specific limit or danger zone

*synonym*: boundary line, deadline, limit

(1) **redline** speed, (2) **redline** level

The neighborhood was affected by a **redline** drawn by real estate agents to keep specific populations out.

## boast

*v.* to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction

*synonym*: show off, brag, bluster

(1) **boast** of his success, (2) **boast** a long history

This town **boasts** a national park.

## 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.

## disproportionately

*adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

*synonym*: excessively, unequally

(1) **disproportionately** affected, (2) **disproportionately** high

The rich can often **disproportionately** benefit from tax breaks and other advantages.

## industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym*: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

## steer

v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

*synonym*: guide, direct, control

(1) **steer** a steady course, (2) **steer** a conversation

The captain told him to **steer** the ship north.

## inaccessible

*adj.* unable to travel to or reach; not available

*synonym*: inapproachable, unreachable, remote

(1) **inaccessible** to an unauthorized user, (2) **inaccessible** areas

Heavy snow made it **inaccessible** to go to the mountain village.

## gentrify

v. to renovate, revitalize, or develop a deteriorated, predominantly urban area, often leading to the displacement of low-income or minority residents and the influx of more affluent residents and businesses

*synonym*: revitalize, renovate, renew

(1) **gentrify** a community, (2) **gentrify** a street

The new coffee shops and high-end boutiques are starting to **gentrify** the neighborhood.

## exclusionary

*adj.* tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others

*synonym*: discriminatory, exclusive, selective

(1) **exclusionary** clause, (2) **exclusionary** practices

The new housing development faced criticism for its **exclusionary** policies towards lower-income residents.

## displace

v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

*synonym*: evict, exile, remove

(1) **displace** workers, (2) **displace** the explosive power

The construction of the new dam will **displace** hundreds of families living downstream.

## etch

*v.* to carve, cut, or engrave (a design or text) into a hard surface; to corrode, erode or eat away at a metal surface using acid or another chemical substance to create a design or pattern

*synonym*: engrave, inscribe, carve

(1) **etch** a metal plate, (2) **etch** a design into wood

He used a sharp tool to **etch** his initials onto the metal.

## pristine

*adj.* new and completely free from dirt or contamination

*synonym*: chaste, pure, immaculate

(1) **pristine** beach, (2) maintain the **pristine** condition

It is terrific to camp in **pristine** nature.

## footnote

*n.* a note of additional information provided at the bottom of a page in a book or document, often indicated by a superscript number or symbol in the main text

*synonym*: annotation, comment, reference

(1) **footnote** citation, (2) add a **footnote**

I included a **footnote** in my essay to provide additional information and sources for my argument.

## insidious

*adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

*synonym*: sly, cunning, subtle

(1) **insidious** plot, (2) **insidious** behavior

The disease has an **insidious** onset, making it difficult to diagnose.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. ge\_\_\_\_fy a street  
v. to renovate, revitalize, or develop a deteriorated, predominantly urban area, often leading to the displacement of low-income or minority residents and the influx of more affluent residents and businesses
2. the ou\_\_\_\_t of the crisis  
n. the beginning of something
3. e\_\_h a design into wood  
v. to carve, cut, or engrave (a design or text) into a hard surface; to corrode, erode or eat away at a metal surface using acid or another chemical substance to create a design or pattern
4. ha\_\_\_\_s with constant criticism  
v. to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention
5. bo\_\_t a long history  
v. to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction
6. st\_\_r a conversation  
v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
7. in\_\_\_\_us behavior  
adj. tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
8. qu\_\_\_\_le the price of gold  
v. to consist of four items or people; to become four times as great or many

ANSWERS: 1. gentrify, 2. outset, 3. etch, 4. harass, 5. boast, 6. steer, 7. insidious, 8. quadruple

- |                                      |      |   |
|--------------------------------------|------|---|
| 9. und_____te a loan                 | v.   | to assume financial responsibility for something  |
| 10. di_____ce workers                | v.   | to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation                 |
| 11. ha____s the enemy                | v.   | to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention   |
| 12. p__e a smoother road             | v.   | to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use                                    |
| 13. fo_____te citation               | n.   | a note of additional information provided at the bottom of a page in a book or document, often indicated by a superscript number or symbol in the main text |
| 14. arson-caused wi_____re           | n.   | a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope                                       |
| 15. nec_____te action                | v.   | to make something necessary or essential; to require something as a condition or consequence  |
| 16. a ri___e of laughter             | n.   | a small wave on the surface of a liquid, typically caused by an object falling into it or a slight wind   |
| 17. maintain the pr_____ne condition | adj. | new and completely free from dirt or contamination  |

ANSWERS: 9. underwrite, 10. displace, 11. harass, 12. pave, 13. footnote, 14. wildfire, 15. necessitate, 16. ripple, 17. pristine



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|-------------------------------------|--|
| 18. live in af_____nt circumstances | <i>adj.</i> rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth  |
| 19. ind_____us worker               | <i>adj.</i> hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort  |
| 20. in_____us plot                  | <i>adj.</i> tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way  |
| 21. ina_____ble areas               | <i>adj.</i> unable to travel to or reach; not available  |
| 22. und_____te an issue of shares   | <i>v.</i> to assume financial responsibility for something   |
| 23. re_____e speed                  | <i>n.</i> a boundary or threshold beyond which something is no longer acceptable or allowed; a mark or line drawn in red to indicate a specific limit or danger zone |
| 24. 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                                      |
| 25. en_____ss the enemy             | <i>v.</i> to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely  |
| 26. gu_____e beer                   | <i>v.</i> to drink something quickly, greedily, and usually in large amounts.  |
| 27. fr_____y exit                   | <i>n.</i> a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways           |
| 28. dis_____ely affected            | <i>adv.</i> in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else          |

ANSWERS: 18. affluent, 19. industrious, 20. insidious, 21. inaccessible, 22. underwrite, 23. redline, 24. wildfire, 25. encompass, 26. guzzle, 27. freeway, 28. disproportionately

29. po\_\_\_\_r years *adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
30. qu\_\_\_\_\_le the amount *v.* to consist of four items or people; to become four times as great or many
31. month's ou\_\_\_\_t *n.* the beginning of something
32. st\_\_r a steady course *v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
33. nec\_\_\_\_\_te compromise *v.* to make something necessary or essential; to require something as a condition or consequence
34. di\_\_\_\_\_e bleeding *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
35. se\_\_\_\_\_te by race *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
36. re\_\_\_\_\_e level *n.* a boundary or threshold beyond which something is no longer acceptable or allowed; a mark or line drawn in red to indicate a specific limit or danger zone
37. exc\_\_\_\_\_ary practices *adj.* tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others
38. se\_\_\_\_\_te boys and girls *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
39. ina\_\_\_\_\_ble to an unauthorized user *adj.* unable to travel to or reach; not available

ANSWERS: 29. postwar, 30. quadruple, 31. outset, 32. steer, 33. necessitate, 34. diffuse, 35. segregate, 36. redline, 37. exclusionary, 38. segregate, 39. inaccessible

40. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
41. 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
42. gu\_\_\_e their food *v.* to drink something quickly, greedily, and usually in large amounts.
43. di\_\_\_\_\_e cloud *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
44. dis\_\_\_\_\_ely high *adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else
45. bo\_\_t of his success *v.* to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction
46. po\_\_\_\_\_r society *adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
47. p\_\_e a new path *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
48. exc\_\_\_\_\_ary clause *adj.* tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others

ANSWERS: 40. industrious, 41. freeway, 42. guzzle, 43. diffuse, 44. disproportionately, 45. boast, 46. postwar, 47. pave, 48. exclusionary

49. af\_\_\_\_nt society      *adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
50. e\_\_h a metal plate      *v.* to carve, cut, or engrave (a design or text) into a hard surface; to corrode, erode or eat away at a metal surface using acid or another chemical substance to create a design or pattern
51. add a fo\_\_\_\_te      *n.* a note of additional information provided at the bottom of a page in a book or document, often indicated by a superscript number or symbol in the main text
52. pr\_\_\_\_ne beach      *adj.* new and completely free from dirt or contamination
53. en\_\_\_\_ss a broad range      *v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
54. di\_\_\_\_ce the explosive power      *v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
55. ri\_\_\_\_e in the water      *n.* a small wave on the surface of a liquid, typically caused by an object falling into it or a slight wind
56. ge\_\_\_\_fy a community      *v.* to renovate, revitalize, or develop a deteriorated, predominantly urban area, often leading to the displacement of low-income or minority residents and the influx of more affluent residents and businesses

ANSWERS: 49. affluent, 50. etch, 51. footnote, 52. pristine, 53. encompass, 54. displace, 55. ripple, 56. gentrify

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. They \_\_\_\_\_ the cheap vodka.  
*v.* to drink something quickly, greedily, and usually in large amounts.
2. The optimal solution that would \_\_\_\_\_ all these elements has yet to be proposed.  
*v.* to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
3. 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
4. The captain told him to \_\_\_\_\_ the ship north.  
*v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
5. The school board decided to \_\_\_\_\_ students by the ability to meet their needs better.  
*v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
6. Heavy snow made it \_\_\_\_\_ to go to the mountain village.  
*adj.* unable to travel to or reach; not available
7. His stock earnings \_\_\_\_\_.  
*v.* to consist of four items or people; to become four times as great or many

ANSWERS: 1. guzzled, 2. encompass, 3. freeway, 4. steer, 5. segregate, 6. inaccessible, 7. quadrupled

8. The new housing development faced criticism for its \_\_\_\_\_ policies towards lower-income residents.  
*adj.* tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others
9. 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
10. I included a \_\_\_\_\_ in my essay to provide additional information and sources for my argument.  
*n.* a note of additional information provided at the bottom of a page in a book or document, often indicated by a superscript number or symbol in the main text
11. At the \_\_\_\_\_ of the project, we encountered several obstacles.  
*n.* the beginning of something
12. The neighborhood was affected by a \_\_\_\_\_ drawn by real estate agents to keep specific populations out.  
*n.* a boundary or threshold beyond which something is no longer acceptable or allowed; a mark or line drawn in red to indicate a specific limit or danger zone
13. She lived in an \_\_\_\_\_ neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.  
*adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
14. The disease has an \_\_\_\_\_ onset, making it difficult to diagnose.  
*adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

ANSWERS: 8. exclusionary, 9. wildfire, 10. footnote, 11. outset, 12. redline, 13. affluent, 14. insidious

15. The \_\_\_\_\_ period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.  
*adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
16. The insurance company decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the policy for the new building.  
*v.* to assume financial responsibility for something
17. She was constantly \_\_\_\_\_ by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.  
*v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention
18. The new coffee shops and high-end boutiques are starting to \_\_\_\_\_ the neighborhood.  
*v.* to renovate, revitalize, or develop a deteriorated, predominantly urban area, often leading to the displacement of low-income or minority residents and the influx of more affluent residents and businesses
19. The new law will \_\_\_\_\_ changes in our current procedures.  
*v.* to make something necessary or essential; to require something as a condition or consequence
20. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
21. They \_\_\_\_\_ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.  
*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
22. Many businesses felt the \_\_\_\_\_ effect of the economy's decline.  
*n.* a small wave on the surface of a liquid, typically caused by an object falling into it or a slight wind

ANSWERS: 15. postwar, 16. underwrite, 17. harassed, 18. gentrify, 19. necessitate, 20. industrious, 21. paved, 22. ripple



23. The construction of the new dam will \_\_\_\_\_ hundreds of families living downstream.

- v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

24. Direct lighting is preferable to \_\_\_\_\_ lighting when reading.

- adj. spread out widely; not concentrated in one place

25. He used a sharp tool to \_\_\_\_\_ his initials onto the metal.

- v. to carve, cut, or engrave (a design or text) into a hard surface; to corrode, erode or eat away at a metal surface using acid or another chemical substance to create a design or pattern

26. It is terrific to camp in \_\_\_\_\_ nature.

- adj. new and completely free from dirt or contamination

27. This town \_\_\_\_\_ a national park.

- v. to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction

28. The rich can often \_\_\_\_\_ benefit from tax breaks and other advantages.

- adv. in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

ANSWERS: 23. displace, 24. diffuse, 25. etch, 26. pristine, 27. boasts, 28. disproportionately