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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Erin Meezan: What nature can teach us about

sustainable business | TED Talk

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

_can_teach_us_about_sustainable_business



All Words

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Session 1: Word List

debate

n. a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives

synonym: argument, discussion, dispute

(1) debate topic, (2) debate competition

The **debate** over climate change continues to be a hot topic in politics.

climate

the weather in a particular location averaged over some long period

synonym: atmosphere, weather, environment

a cold climate, (2) effects of climate change
 Climate and weather have an impact on every part of our lifestyles.

benchmark

 a standard or reference point used for comparison or evaluation; a point of reference for measuring progress or performance

synonym: standard, measure, gauge

(1) industry **benchmark**, (2) performance **benchmark**The teacher used a **benchmark** to measure the progress of

her students.

belt

 to sing loudly and forcefully; to hit someone or something hard; (noun) a strip of leather or other material worn to tie or buckle something around the body

synonym: sing, hit hard, (noun) strap

(1) **belt** him in the face, (2) leather **belt**

The band was **belting** out old songs in response to audience requests.

complexity

 the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand

synonym: intricacy, sophistication, elaboration

(1) cognitive **complexity**, (2) **complexity** theory

The project's **complexity** made it difficult for the team to complete it on time.

chemistry

- the branch of the natural sciences dealing with the composition of substances and their properties and reactions
- (1) professor of **chemistry**, (2) the **chemistry** of soil He is familiar with **chemistry** and biology.

engineer

- n. a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
 synonym: architect, creator, builder
- (1) a civil **engineer**, (2) **engineer** shortage

The **engineer** will repair my telephone tomorrow morning.

harness

v. to control and exploit the power of something, especially natural resources that produce energy; (noun) a set of narrow pieces of leather and metal that are used to control or hold in place a person, animal, or object

synonym: rein in, control, (noun) belt

(1) **harness** a horse to a carriage, (2) put a **harness** on my pet

People have been exploring ways to **harness** natural forces and resources since ancient times.

sustainable

adj. able to continue or be continued for a long time synonym: continuable, endurable, tolerable

(1) **sustainable** alternative fuel, (2) principles of **sustainable** development

The government should do more to support environmentally **sustainable** agriculture.

countdown

n. a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline

synonym: timer

(1) countdown clock, (2) wedding countdown

The **countdown** to launch began as the astronauts prepared for their mission.

pledge

- v. to make a formal promise to give or do somethingsynonym: promise, assure, guarantee
- (1) **pledge** my fidelity, (2) **pledge** military assistance At this ceremony, We will **pledge** allegiance to the country's flag.

interface

 n. (computer science) a program that controls a display for the user and that allows the user to interact with the system; (chemistry) a surface forming a common boundary between two things

synonym: junction, surface, UI

(1) **interface** between gas and liquid, (2) the user **interface** Detergent weakens the surface tension at the **interface** of two liquids.

sector

 a distinct part or division of something often used to refer to a segment of an economy or industry; an area or field of work or activity synonym: division, department, branch

(1) industrial **sector**, (2) private **sector**

The technology **sector** is constantly evolving and innovating.

manufacture

v. to make goods in large numbers, usually in a factory using machines

synonym: create, fabricate, assemble

(1) **manufacture** an enzyme, (2) **manufacture** a product The majority of synthetic vitamins are **manufactured** from oil.

locate

v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something

synonym: discover, find, place

Iocate a missing pet, (2) Iocate a tumor
 The robot can accurately Iocate construction material.

operate

- v. to work in a particular way; to supervise something synonym: work, use, employ
- (1) **operate** 24 hours a day, (2) manually **operate** a machine

This machine is too difficult to **operate** for me.

construct

v. to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole

synonym: build, assemble, create

(1) construct a 3D image, (2) construct a dam

He **constructs** hypotheses that no mathematician has ever imagined before.

carbon

- a chemical element that can be found in pure form as diamond or graphite, and it is also an essential part of coal and oil and is found in all plants and animals
- (1) carbon dioxide, (2) carbon emission

Trees absorb **carbon** dioxide and give off oxygen.

emission

n. the act of production or sending out gas, heat, light, etc.synonym:

emanation, radiation, discharge

(1) global **emissions** of greenhouse gases, (2) the **emission** of light

There are five distinct **emissions** at five unique wavelengths.

planet

 any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

synonym: earth, world, globe

(1) **planet** like the Earth, (2) save the **planet** Mercury is the closest **planet** to the sun.

recycle

 to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

synonym: reclaim, reuse, reprocess

(1) **recycle** the cardboard boxes, (2) **recycle** milk packaging into new paper

We largely **recycle** the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.

footprint

- n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surfacesynonym: footmark, imprint, impression
- (1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon footprint.

inspire

v. to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative

synonym: boost, encourage, enlighten

(1) **inspire** a feeling of curiosity, (2) **inspire** him to write a novel

The unique style of this martial arts **inspired** many action film producers.

adhesive

n. a sticky substance used to hold things togethersynonym: sticky, clingy, gluey

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(1) adhesive ability, (2) adhesive tape

You'll need some solid **adhesive** to repair that chair.

exploration

 the activity of searching and finding out about something through a place

synonym: inquiry, quest, investigation

(1) future of space **exploration**, (2) an Arctic **exploration** He called for a careful **exploration** of the consequences.

gecko

 a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces

synonym: lizard, salamander, chameleon

(1) **gecko** habitat, (2) house **gecko**

I saw a **gecko** crawling on the wall of my bedroom.

innovation

 the creation of a new device or process resulting from study and experimentation

synonym: invention, initiation, creation

(1) innovation leader, (2) cutting-edge innovation

The vegetarian burger was an **innovation** that quickly spread to the United Kingdom.

glue

- n. a sticky substance used for joining things together; a bonding agent made from animal or synthetic materialssynonym: adhesive, paste, gum
- (1) glue stick, (2) epoxy glue

The carpenter applied **glue** to the cabinet joints before nailing them together.

swap

- v. to give something and receive something in trade synonym: exchange, switch, trade
- (1) **swap** seats, (2) **swap** columns with rows Don't **swap** horses while crossing a stream.

biology

 the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things

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(1) evolutionary biology ,	(2) cell and molecular biology
In junior high school, we h	nad to dissect a frog in biology
class.	

innovate

- v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products synonym: bring in, introduce, found
- (1) **innovate** a new method, (2) **innovate** the quality of his life

Companies developing self-driving cars consistently **innovate** the emerging technologies.

emit

v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.

synonym: give off, radiate, expel

(1) **emit** a gamma ray, (2) **emit** air pollution

During the unloading, the container box **emits** a clicking sound.

environment

 the natural world such as air, water, and land in which humans, animals, and plants live

synonym: atmosphere, surroundings, climate

environment affairs, (2) chaotic environment
 Every human is responsible for taking care of the Earth's environment.

harvest

n. yields of plants in a single growing season; the period of the year when gathering occurs on a farm

synonym: crop, reaping, yield

(1) a scanty **harvest**, (2) reap a **harvest**During **harvest**, farmers are incredibly busy.

purify

v. to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it

synonym: refine, filter, clarify

(1) **purify** hydrogen gas, (2) **purify** the blood

The equipment is frequently used to **purify** and distribute

drinking water.

rainwater

 water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected

synonym: precipitation, drizzle, showers

(1) rainwater acidity, (2) rainwater drainage

The company installed a **rainwater** harvesting system to collect and reuse it for manufacturing.

install

 to fix furniture, a machine, or a piece of equipment into position so that it can be used; put into an office or a position

synonym: establish, inaugurate, lodge

(1) **install** a door, (2) **install** a chairperson

The new president was **installed** immediately after the national election.

device

 a piece of equipment, tool, or technology that serves a particular purpose or function, often mechanical or electronic

synonym: gadget, instrument, tool

(1) electronic device, (2) tracking device

I always carry a backup **device** in case my phone runs out of battery.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

on-site

adj. located, situated, or taking place at the same site or place as another specified activity or event; at the location where work or a project is being done or where a service is being provided

synonym: on-location, at the site, at the place

(1) **on-site** parking, (2) **on-site** restaurant

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The construction team set up an **on-site** office to manage the building project.

removal

the act of taking something away or off from a particular place

synonym: extraction, elimination, eradication

(1) dental tartar removal, (2) removal truck

The **removal** of the statue caused much controversy in the community.

accelerate

 to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly

synonym: speed up, quicken, rev

(1) **accelerate** a chemical reaction, (2) **accelerate** the car The government tried to **accelerate** the commercialization of this development.

committed

adj. willing to put in a lot of effort, time, and energy into something; firmly believing in something

synonym: devoted, faithful, attached

(1) in a **committed** relationship, (2) strong and **committed** sales staff

Our company is strongly **committed** to meeting customers' needs.

negative

adj. having the quality of something bad or harmful; expressing refusal

synonym: minus, adverse, pessimistic

(1) have a **negative** effect, (2) a **negative** number The movie has received almost universally **negative** criticism.

Session 2: Spelling

1.	an opne remark	adj.	suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
2.	put a has on my pet	v.	to control and exploit the power of something, especially natural resources that produce energy; (noun) a set of narrow pieces of leather and metal that are used to control or hold in place a person, animal, or object
3.	inte the quality of his life	<i>v</i> .	to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
4.	private ser	n.	a distinct part or division of something often used to refer to a segment of an economy or industry; an area or field of work or activity
5.	envnt affairs	n.	the natural world such as air, water, and land in which humans, animals, and plants live
6.	electronic dee	n.	a piece of equipment, tool, or technology that serves a particular purpose or function, often mechanical or electronic
7.	adve tape	n.	a sticky substance used to hold things together
8.	ine a feeling of curiosity	ν.	to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to

ANSWERS: 1. opportune, 2. harness, 3. innovate, 4. sector, 5. environment, 6. device, 7. adhesive, 8. inspire

do something creative

9.	tracking dee	n.	a piece of equipment, tool, or technology that serves a particular purpose or function, often mechanical or electronic
10.	cutting-edge innon	n.	the creation of a new device or process resulting from study and experimentation
11.	reI truck	n.	the act of taking something away or off from a particular place
12.	reap a hat	n.	yields of plants in a single growing season; the period of the year when gathering occurs on a farm
13.	ge stick	n.	a sticky substance used for joining things together; a bonding agent made from animal or synthetic materials
14.	a cold cle	n.	the weather in a particular location averaged over some long period
15.	cognitive comty	n.	the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand
16.	b_t him in the face	ν.	to sing loudly and forcefully; to hit someone or something hard; (noun) a strip of leather or other material worn to tie or buckle something around the body
17.	a scanty hat	n.	yields of plants in a single growing season; the period of the year when gathering occurs on a farm
18.	et a gamma ray	<i>v</i> .	to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
19.	strong and coed sales staff	adj.	willing to put in a lot of effort, time, and energy into something; firmly believing in something

ANSWERS: 9. device, 10. innovation, 11. removal, 12. harvest, 13. glue, 14. climate, 15. complexity, 16. belt, 17. harvest, 18. emit, 19. committed

20.	adve ability	n.	a sticky substance used to hold things together
21.	accte the car	<i>v</i> .	to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly
22.	inI a door	ν.	to fix furniture, a machine, or a piece of equipment into position so that it can be used; put into an office or a position
23.	fonts in the snow	n.	a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
24.	save the plt	n.	any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
25.	raer acidity	n.	water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected
26.	a neve number	adj.	having the quality of something bad or harmful; expressing refusal
27.	effects of cle change	n.	the weather in a particular location averaged over some long period
28.	ree milk packaging into new paper	v.	to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
29.	can dioxide	n.	a chemical element that can be found in pure form as diamond or graphite, and it is also an essential part of coal and oil and is found in all plants and animals
30.	sp seats	<i>v</i> .	to give something and receive something in trade

it

ANSWERS: 20. adhesive, 21. accelerate, 22. install, 23. footprint, 24. planet, 25. rainwater, 26. negative, 27. climate, 28. recycle, 29. carbon, 30. swap

31.	opne occasion	adj.	suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
32.	epoxy ge	n.	a sticky substance used for joining things together; a bonding agent made from animal or synthetic materials
33.	principles of susle development	adj.	able to continue or be continued for a long time
34.	loe a missing pet	v.	to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
35.	innon leader	n.	the creation of a new device or process resulting from study and experimentation
36.	puy the blood	v.	to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it
37.	coct a 3D image	v.	to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole
38.	dental tartar rel	n.	the act of taking something away or off from a particular place
39.	have a neve effect	adj.	having the quality of something bad or harmful; expressing refusal
40.	one parking	adj.	located, situated, or taking place at the same site or place as another specified activity or event; at the location where work or a project is being done or where a service is being provided
41.	an Arctic expon	n.	the activity of searching and finding out about something through a place

ANSWERS: 31. opportune, 32. glue, 33. sustainable, 34. locate, 35. innovation, 36. purify, 37. construct, 38. removal, 39. negative, 40. on-site, 41. exploration

42.	global emons of greenhouse gases	n.	the act of production or sending out gas, heat, light, etc.
43.	e_t air pollution	<i>v</i> .	to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
44.	leather bt	<i>v</i> .	to sing loudly and forcefully; to hit someone or something hard; (noun) a strip of leather or other material worn to tie or buckle something around the body
45.	loe a tumor	<i>v</i> .	to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
46.	future of space expon	n.	the activity of searching and finding out about something through a place
47.	ple military assistance	<i>v</i> .	to make a formal promise to give or do something
48.	manre an enzyme	<i>v</i> .	to make goods in large numbers, usually in a factory using machines
49.	chaotic envnt	n.	the natural world such as air, water, and land in which humans, animals, and plants live
50.	wedding cown	n.	a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline
51.	inte a new method	v.	to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
52.	the emon of light	n.	the act of production or sending out gas, heat, light, etc.

ANSWERS: 42. emission, 43. emit, 44. belt, 45. locate, 46. exploration, 47. pledge, 48. manufacture, 49. environment, 50. countdown, 51. innovate, 52. emission

de___e competition

n. a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives

60. sus_____le alternative fuel adj. able to continue or be continued for a long time

ANSWERS: 53. sector, 54. recycle, 55. harness, 56. accelerate, 57. engineer, 58. install, 59. debate, 60. sustainable

61.	ener shortage	n.	a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
62.	geo habitat	n.	a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces
63.	in a coed relationship	adj.	willing to put in a lot of effort, time, and energy into something; firmly believing in something
64.	house geo	n.	a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces
65.	evolutionary biy	n.	the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things
66.	sp columns with rows	<i>v</i> .	to give something and receive something in trade
67.	ine him to write a novel	ν.	to make somebody fill with the desire, confidence, or enthusiasm, especially to do something creative
68.	can emission	n.	a chemical element that can be found in pure form as diamond or graphite, and it is also an essential part of coal and oil and is found in all plants and animals
69.	industry berk	n.	a standard or reference point used for comparison or evaluation; a point of reference for measuring progress or performance

ANSWERS: 61. engineer, 62. gecko, 63. committed, 64. gecko, 65. biology, 66. swap, 67. inspire, 68. carbon, 69. benchmark

system; (chemistry) a surface forming a common boundary between two things

78. professor of ch ry

the branch of the natural sciences n. dealing with the composition of substances and their properties and reactions

ANSWERS: 70. chemistry, 71. interface, 72. operate, 73. benchmark, 74. manufacture, 75. purify, 76. planet, 77. interface, 78. chemistry

79. one restaurant	adj.	located, situated, or taking place at the same site or place as another specified activity or event; at the location where work or a project is being done or where a service is being provided
80. dee topic	n.	a formal discussion or argument of opposing viewpoints, often to persuade others to adopt a specific position; a public discussion, often on an issue of current interest, in which participants offer opinions and differing perspectives
81. ple my fidelity	v.	to make a formal promise to give or do something
82. the fonts of an earlier civilization	n.	a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
83. cell and molecular biy	n.	the scientific study of life and the natural processes of living things
84. manually ope a machine	v.	to work in a particular way; to supervise something
85. raer drainage	n.	water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected
86. coct a dam	v.	to build or create something; to assemble or combine different parts to form something whole
87. cown clock	n.	a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline

ANSWERS: 79. on-site, 80. debate, 81. pledge, 82. footprint, 83. biology, 84. operate, 85. rainwater, 86. construct, 87. countdown

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88. com____ty theory

n. the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand

ANSWERS: 88. complexity

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1.	He called for a careful of the consequences.
n.	the activity of searching and finding out about something through a place
2.	We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon
n.	a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
3.	The government tried to the commercialization of this development.
<i>v</i> .	to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly
4.	The robot can accurately construction material.
<i>v</i> .	to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
5.	The technology is constantly evolving and innovating.
n.	a distinct part or division of something often used to refer to a segment of an economy or industry; an area or field of work or activity
6.	The band was out old songs in response to audience requests.
<i>v</i> .	to sing loudly and forcefully; to hit someone or something hard; (noun) a strip of leather or other material worn to tie or buckle something around the body
7.	The government should do more to support environmentally agriculture.
adj	able to continue or be continued for a long time
8.	The phone rang at the most time.
adj	suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
	SWERS: 1. exploration, 2. footprint, 3. accelerate, 4. locate, 5. sector, 6. belting, 7. stainable, 8. opportune

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biology, 15. committed, 16. interface

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ANSWERS: 33. environment, 34. innovation, 35. emits, 36. glue, 37. harness, 38. recycle, 39. carbon

ANSWERS: 40. installed, 41. Climate, 42. engineer, 43. emissions, 44. swap