

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dustin Burke: How to fix broken supply chains | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

supple

adj. flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas

synonym: flexible, pliable, bendable

(1) **supple** muscles, (2) **supple** leather

The ballerina's **supple** movements left the audience mesmerized.

rumor

n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth

synonym: gossip, whisper, talk

(1) a false **rumor**, (2) **rumor** mill

There was a baseless **rumor** that the company was going bankrupt.

pandemic

n. an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

synonym: outbreak

(1) flu **pandemic**, (2) global **pandemic**

They fear a **pandemic** of a new type of virus.

strawberry

n. a sweet, juicy fruit with a reddish color, a seeded surface, and a green, leafy top

(1) the **strawberry** pie, (2) **strawberry** greenhouse

He had a **strawberry** smoothie for breakfast.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

geopolitical

adj. of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area

(1) the **geopolitical** situations, (2) reduce **geopolitical** risk

The country holds dominant **geopolitical** power over its neighbors.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population

She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

diversify

v. to make something include more different types or things; to spread out activities or investments

synonym: branch out, expand, broaden

(1) **diversify** my portfolio, (2) **diversify** energy sources

This inclusive environment has allowed the plant species to **diversify**.

stockpile

n. a large quantity or reserve of goods or materials that are accumulated and stored for future use, often used for emergency or contingency purposes; (verb) to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something, usually for future use or as a reserve

synonym : reserve, hoard, cache

(1) **stockpile** weapons, (2) nuclear **stockpile**

The farmer had a huge **stockpile** of hay for the winter.

trade-off

n. a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

synonym : compromise, balance, exchange

(1) **trade-off** problem, (2) environmental **trade-off**

There was a **trade-off** between speed and accuracy in the task.

jean

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

synonym : denim, cotton, pants

(1) a **jean** skirt, (2) **jean** denim

She wore her favorite pair of **jeans** to the party.

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.

repurpose

v. to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended

synonym : reutilize, recycle, reuse

(1) **repurpose** an old building, (2) **repurpose** a used car

The old barn was **repurposed** into a modern event space.

lug

v. to carry or drag something with effort; to pull something along with a sudden or jerky motion

synonym : carry, haul, transport

(1) **lug** a hose, (2) **lug** my son into a room

He had to **lug** the heavy suitcase up the stairs.

streamline

v. to simplify or make more efficient by eliminating unnecessary parts or steps

synonym : simplify, optimize, make more efficient

(1) **streamline** administrative activities, (2) **streamline** workflow

The government plans to **streamline** the tax collection process to make it more efficient.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym : curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

microprocessor

n. a computer component containing all the functions of the central processing unit

synonym : IC, chip, microchip

(1) **microprocessor** chip, (2) dedicated **microprocessor**

As a result of improvements in **microprocessor** performance, many consumer electronics products are now Internet-connected.

plummet

v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

synonym : drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

diversified

adj. characterized by diversity or variety; having different forms or types

synonym :

varied, assorted, heterogeneous

(1) **diversified** portfolio, (2) **diversified** economy

The **diversified** menu offered options for everyone, from meat-eaters to vegetarians.

gulf

n. a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land

synonym: chasm, divide, abyss

(1) **gulf** war, (2) **gulf** stream

The **Gulf** of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.

lockdown

n. an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19

(1) go on **lockdown**, (2) **lockdown** area

The country's prime minister has decided to implement a nationwide **lockdown** measure.

reroute

v. to redirect or change the course or direction of something

synonym: redirect, divert, detour

(1) **reroute** traffic, (2) **reroute** path

Due to the traffic, the delivery truck had to **reroute** to avoid the congested roads.

respire

v. to breathe; to inhale and exhale air; to live

synonym: breathe, inhale, exhale

(1) **respire** deeply, (2) unable to **respire** on my own

The scuba diver needed to follow the proper techniques to **respire** while exploring the underwater world.

deplete

v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

synonym: exhaust, consume, use up

(1) **deplete** customer confidence, (2) **deplete** glycogen stores

If we continue to **deplete** the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.

backlog

n. a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet

synonym: accumulation, pile-up, logjam

(1) **backlog** of work, (2) data **backlog**

The company needed help to keep up with the **backlog** of orders.

imaginative

adj. having or showing new and creative ideas

synonym: creative, innovative, inventive

(1) capable of **imaginative** creation, (2) **imaginative** as a child

She is a hard worker but not very **imaginative**.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|---|
| 1. de_____e glycogen stores | v. | to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials |
| 2. di_____fy energy sources | v. | to make something include more different types or things; to spread out activities or investments |
| 3. dedicated mic_____sor | n. | a computer component containing all the functions of the central processing unit |
| 4. str_____ne workflow | v. | to simplify or make more efficient by eliminating unnecessary parts or steps |
| 5. re_____nt population | adj. | able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions |
| 6. l_g a hose | v. | to carry or drag something with effort; to pull something along with a sudden or jerky motion |
| 7. lo_____wn area | n. | an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19 |
| 8. ind_____us worker | adj. | hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort |
| 9. global pa_____ic | n. | an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area |
| 10. su___e leather | adj. | flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas |

ANSWERS: 1. deplete, 2. diversify, 3. microprocessor, 4. streamline, 5. resilient, 6. lug, 7. lockdown, 8. industrious, 9. pandemic, 10. supple

- | | |
|--|---|
| 11. a false ru__r | <i>n.</i> a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth |
| 12. pl____t against other major currencies | <i>v.</i> to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply |
| 13. unable to re____e on my own | <i>v.</i> to breathe; to inhale and exhale air; to live |
| 14. flu pa____ic | <i>n.</i> an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area |
| 15. jazz imp_____ion | <i>n.</i> the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation |
| 16. tr_____ff problem | <i>n.</i> a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise |
| 17. re____e traffic | <i>v.</i> to redirect or change the course or direction of something |
| 18. mic_____sor chip | <i>n.</i> a computer component containing all the functions of the central processing unit |
| 19. a j__n skirt | <i>n.</i> a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing |
| 20. re____se a used car | <i>v.</i> to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended |
| 21. go on lo____wn | <i>n.</i> an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19 |

ANSWERS: 11. rumor, 12. plummet, 13. respire, 14. pandemic, 15. improvisation, 16. trade-off, 17. reroute, 18. microprocessor, 19. jean, 20. repurpose, 21. lockdown

22. nuclear st_____le *n.* a large quantity or reserve of goods or materials that are accumulated and stored for future use, often used for emergency or contingency purposes; (verb) to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something, usually for future use or as a reserve
23. the str_____ry pie *n.* a sweet, juicy fruit with a reddish color, a seeded surface, and a green, leafy top
24. st_____le weapons *n.* a large quantity or reserve of goods or materials that are accumulated and stored for future use, often used for emergency or contingency purposes; (verb) to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something, usually for future use or as a reserve
25. str_____ry greenhouse *n.* a sweet, juicy fruit with a reddish color, a seeded surface, and a green, leafy top
26. ru__r mill *n.* a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
27. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
28. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
29. j__n denim *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
30. capable of ima_____ve creation *adj.* having or showing new and creative ideas

ANSWERS: 22. stockpile, 23. strawberry, 24. stockpile, 25. strawberry, 26. rumor, 27. resilient, 28. medicinal, 29. jean, 30. imaginative

31. su___e muscles *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
32. div_____ed economy *adj.* characterized by diversity or variety; having different forms or types
33. re_____se an old building *v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
34. l_g my son into a room *v.* to carry or drag something with effort; to pull something along with a sudden or jerky motion
35. g__f stream *n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
36. str_____ne administrative activities *v.* to simplify or make more efficient by eliminating unnecessary parts or steps
37. environmental tr_____ff *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
38. reduce geo_____cal risk *adj.* of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area
39. di_____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
40. ba_____g of work *n.* a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet

ANSWERS: 31. supple, 32. diversified, 33. repurpose, 34. lug, 35. gulf, 36. streamline, 37. trade-off, 38. geopolitical, 39. disrupt, 40. backlog

41. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
42. g__f war *n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
43. div_____ed portfolio *adj.* characterized by diversity or variety; having different forms or types
44. pl_____ting sales *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
45. di_____fy my portfolio *v.* to make something include more different types or things; to spread out activities or investments
46. re_____e deeply *v.* to breathe; to inhale and exhale air; to live
47. the geo_____cal situations *adj.* of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area
48. di_____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
49. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
50. de_____e customer confidence *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
51. data ba_____g *n.* a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet

ANSWERS: 41. medicinal, 42. gulf, 43. diversified, 44. plummet, 45. diversify, 46. respire, 47. geopolitical, 48. disrupt, 49. improvisation, 50. deplete, 51. backlog

52. re____e path

v. to redirect or change the course or direction of something

53. ind_____us student

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

54. ima_____ve as a child

adj. having or showing new and creative ideas

ANSWERS: 52. reroute, 53. industrious, 54. imaginative

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The farmer had a huge _____ of hay for the winter.
n. a large quantity or reserve of goods or materials that are accumulated and stored for future use, often used for emergency or contingency purposes; (verb) to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something, usually for future use or as a reserve
2. There was a _____ between speed and accuracy in the task.
n. a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
3. If we continue to _____ the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.
v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
4. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
5. There was a baseless _____ that the company was going bankrupt.
n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
6. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
7. This inclusive environment has allowed the plant species to _____.
v. to make something include more different types or things; to spread out activities or investments

ANSWERS: 1. stockpile, 2. trade-off, 3. deplete, 4. improvisation, 5. rumor, 6. resilient, 7. diversify

8. The _____ of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.
n. a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
9. He had to _____ the heavy suitcase up the stairs.
v. to carry or drag something with effort; to pull something along with a sudden or jerky motion
10. The old barn was _____ into a modern event space.
v. to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
11. The scuba diver needed to follow the proper techniques to _____ while exploring the underwater world.
v. to breathe; to inhale and exhale air; to live
12. The government plans to _____ the tax collection process to make it more efficient.
v. to simplify or make more efficient by eliminating unnecessary parts or steps
13. The _____ menu offered options for everyone, from meat-eaters to vegetarians.
adj. characterized by diversity or variety; having different forms or types
14. The country holds dominant _____ power over its neighbors.
adj. of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area
15. Due to the traffic, the delivery truck had to _____ to avoid the congested roads.
v. to redirect or change the course or direction of something

ANSWERS: 8. Gulf, 9. lug, 10. repurposed, 11. respire, 12. streamline, 13. diversified, 14. geopolitical, 15. reroute

16. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
- v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
17. The company needed help to keep up with the _____ of orders.
- n.* a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet
18. She wore her favorite pair of _____ to the party.
- n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
19. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
- adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
20. The ballerina's _____ movements left the audience mesmerized.
- adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
21. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
22. As a result of improvements in _____ performance, many consumer electronics products are now Internet-connected.
- n.* a computer component containing all the functions of the central processing unit
23. The country's prime minister has decided to implement a nationwide _____ measure.
- n.* an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19

ANSWERS: 16. disrupt, 17. backlog, 18. jeans, 19. medicinal, 20. supple, 21. industrious, 22. microprocessor, 23. lockdown

24. They fear a _____ of a new type of virus.

n. an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

25. The stock prices have _____ in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

26. He had a _____ smoothie for breakfast.

n. a sweet, juicy fruit with a reddish color, a seeded surface, and a green, leafy top

27. She is a hard worker but not very _____.

adj. having or showing new and creative ideas

ANSWERS: 24. pandemic, 25. plummeted, 26. strawberry, 27. imaginative