

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Elizabeth Zion: The need for family reunification -- to make families whole again | TED Talk

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

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

sibling

n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

synonym: brother, sister, relative

(1) have a **sibling** quarrel, (2) play with my **siblings**

Children often copy their parents or elder **siblings**.

umbilical

n. relating to a flexible cord-like structure that connects a developing fetus to the placenta in the mother's uterus during pregnancy, called umbilical cord; connected or corresponding closely to something essential, such as a source of nourishment or support

synonym: navel, belly button, cord

(1) **umbilical** blood, (2) **umbilical** hernia

The **umbilical** cord is a vital lifeline between a mother and her unborn baby.

stubbornness

n. the trait of being unyielding, obstinate, or inflexible; a refusal to change one's opinions or behavior despite pressure or persuasion

synonym: inflexibility, doggedness, obstinacy

(1) plain **stubbornness**, (2) show **stubbornness**

Her **stubbornness** in negotiations prevented a successful

outcome for both parties.

inhumane

adj. lacking compassion or mercy towards humans or animals; causing or involving extreme physical or mental pain

synonym : cruel, brutal, barbaric

(1) **inhumane** forms of punishment, (2) **inhumane** living conditions

The conditions at the factory were deemed **inhumane** and caused outrage among the public.

degrade

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

synonym : demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

dictate

v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

synonym : read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate

The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

solicitor

n. a legal professional who provides advice and prepares legal documents, typically working in private practice on behalf of clients; a person who promotes business

synonym : suppliant, pleader, advocate

(1) advertising **solicitor**, (2) official **solicitor**

The property dispute was resolved amicably between the two parties with the help of a **solicitor**.

reunification

n. the act of bringing something back together; the reuniting of previously separated parts

synonym: integration, consolidation, reuniting

(1) **reunification** talks, (2) family **reunification**

The **reunification** of the two countries was celebrated with great joy.

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.

well-being

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

synonym: health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**

We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

painstaking

adj. cautious and correct, and requiring a significant amount of effort

synonym: detailed, meticulous, conscientious

(1) **painstaking** research, (2) a **painstaking** student

The training of a hawk was a **painstaking** process.

earnest

adj. characterized by sincere and severe conviction or effort; showing a deep and a genuine sense of purpose or commitment

synonym: sincere, serious, genuine

(1) **earnest** attempt, (2) **earnest** conversation

He spoke in an **earnest** tone, expressing his genuine concern for the safety of everyone involved.

lullaby

n. a soft and gentle song, often sung to soothe a baby or young child and encourage sleep; any song or piece of music that has a calming or relaxing effect

synonym: cradle song, lilt, melody

(1) **lullaby** song, (2) soothing **lullaby**

The soft and gentle melody of the **lullaby** filled the room.

recital

n. a public performance of music or dance, usually by a soloist or a group of performers; a detailed account of events or facts

synonym : performance, concert, show

(1) poetry **recital**, (2) give a **recital** at the hall

Her piano **recital** was a great success, and she received a standing ovation.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym : sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

tuck

v. to push a stray piece of clothing or material into a particular area or position, especially to make it more orderly or comfortable

synonym : insert, wrap, pinch

(1) **tuck** a baby in the blanket, (2) **tuck** into another cigarette

You should **tuck** your shirt into your trousers.

lament

v. to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning

synonym : mourn, grieve, bemoan

(1) **lament** my misfortunes, (2) **lament** the situation

She **lamented** the loss of her beloved cat.

yearn

v. to strongly desire or long for something

synonym : long, desire, crave

(1) **yearn** after my old days, (2) **yearn** for love

She **yearned** for the days when things were simpler.

takeover

n. an act of taking control of something, especially the buying out of one company by another; an act of taking control of a country or an area by force

synonym: seizure, confiscation, expropriation

(1) a **takeover** of a company, (2) consolidation **takeover**

The **takeover** deal was worth a few tens of billions of dollars.

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.

reunite

v. to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation

synonym: reconcile, reunify, reconvene

(1) **reunite** after five years, (2) **reunite** with my friend

The band will **reunite** only for this show.

needless

adj. describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences

synonym: unnecessary, pointless, superfluous

(1) **needless** argument, (2) **needless** waste

This **needless** paperwork is wasting our time and resources.

migrant

n. a traveler who moves from one region or country to another, especially to find work or better living conditions; a bird or an animal that moves from one place to another

synonym: immigrant, itinerant, transient

(1) **migrant** worker, (2) the movement of **migrant** birds

The government revoked his license to employ **migrant** labor crews.

unify

v. to bring or join something together so that they form a single unit

synonym: bring together, consolidate, merge

(1) **unify** the system, (2) **unify** the party

The people believe that they can **unify** the country.

bureaucracy

n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives

synonym: administration, government, system

(1) government **bureaucracy**, (2) arbitrary **bureaucracy**

The bumbling **bureaucracy** made it difficult to get the permits we needed.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. government bur_____cy | <i>n.</i> a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives |
| 2. show stu_____ess | <i>n.</i> the trait of being unyielding, obstinate, or inflexible; a refusal to change one's opinions or behavior despite pressure or persuasion |
| 3. pai_____ng research | <i>adj.</i> cautious and correct, and requiring a significant amount of effort |
| 4. di_____e to the associate | <i>v.</i> to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded |
| 5. di_____e a letter to secretary | <i>v.</i> to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded |
| 6. in_____ne forms of punishment | <i>adj.</i> lacking compassion or mercy towards humans or animals; causing or involving extreme physical or mental pain |
| 7. plain stu_____ess | <i>n.</i> the trait of being unyielding, obstinate, or inflexible; a refusal to change one's opinions or behavior despite pressure or persuasion |
| 8. don't dis_____nt me | <i>v.</i> to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad |
| 9. de_____e his public image | <i>v.</i> to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others |

ANSWERS: 1. bureaucracy, 2. stubbornness, 3. painstaking, 4. dictate, 5. dictate, 6. inhumane, 7. stubbornness, 8. disappoint, 9. degrade

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 10. lu_____y song | <i>n.</i> a soft and gentle song, often sung to soothe a baby or young child and encourage sleep; any song or piece of music that has a calming or relaxing effect |
| 11. re_____e after five years | <i>v.</i> to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation |
| 12. a pai_____ng student | <i>adj.</i> cautious and correct, and requiring a significant amount of effort |
| 13. de_____e environmental quality | <i>v.</i> to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others |
| 14. di_____ce workers | <i>v.</i> to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation |
| 15. advertising so_____or | <i>n.</i> a legal professional who provides advice and prepares legal documents, typically working in private practice on behalf of clients; a person who promotes business |
| 16. mi_____t worker | <i>n.</i> a traveler who moves from one region or country to another, especially to find work or better living conditions; a bird or an animal that moves from one place to another |
| 17. give a re_____l at the hall | <i>n.</i> a public performance of music or dance, usually by a soloist or a group of performers; a detailed account of events or facts |

ANSWERS: 10. lullaby, 11. reunite, 12. painstaking, 13. degrade, 14. displace, 15. solicitor, 16. migrant, 17. recital

18. poetry re_____l *n.* a public performance of music or dance, usually by a soloist or a group of performers; a detailed account of events or facts
19. ye__n for love *v.* to strongly desire or long for something
20. play with my si_____gs *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
21. a ta_____er of a company *n.* an act of taking control of something, especially the buying out of one company by another; an act of taking control of a country or an area by force
22. ne_____ss argument *adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
23. arbitrary bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
24. have a si_____g quarrel *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
25. official so_____or *n.* a legal professional who provides advice and prepares legal documents, typically working in private practice on behalf of clients; a person who promotes business
26. family reu_____ion *n.* the act of bringing something back together; the reuniting of previously separated parts

ANSWERS: 18. recital, 19. yearn, 20. sibling, 21. takeover, 22. needless, 23. bureaucracy, 24. sibling, 25. solicitor, 26. reunification

27. the wel_____ng of a nation *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
28. t__k a baby in the blanket *v.* to push a stray piece of clothing or material into a particular area or position, especially to make it more orderly or comfortable
29. in_____ne living conditions *adj.* lacking compassion or mercy towards humans or animals; causing or involving extreme physical or mental pain
30. consolidation ta_____er *n.* an act of taking control of something, especially the buying out of one company by another; an act of taking control of a country or an area by force
31. re_____e with my friend *v.* to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation
32. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
33. the movement of mi_____t birds *n.* a traveler who moves from one region or country to another, especially to find work or better living conditions; a bird or an animal that moves from one place to another
34. un__y the system *v.* to bring or join something together so that they form a single unit
35. un__y the party *v.* to bring or join something together so that they form a single unit
36. um_____al hernia *n.* relating to a flexible cord-like structure that connects a developing fetus to the placenta in the mother's uterus during pregnancy, called umbilical cord; connected or corresponding closely to something essential, such as a source of nourishment or support

ANSWERS: 27. well-being, 28. tuck, 29. inhumane, 30. takeover, 31. reunite, 32. opportune, 33. migrant, 34. unify, 35. unify, 36. umbilical

37. t__k into another cigarette *v.* to push a stray piece of clothing or material into a particular area or position, especially to make it more orderly or comfortable
38. 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
39. la____t the situation *v.* to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning
40. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
41. dis_____nt the audience *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
42. a sense of wel_____ng *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
43. ea____t attempt *adj.* characterized by sincere and severe conviction or effort; showing a deep and a genuine sense of purpose or commitment
44. um_____al blood *n.* relating to a flexible cord-like structure that connects a developing fetus to the placenta in the mother's uterus during pregnancy, called umbilical cord; connected or corresponding closely to something essential, such as a source of nourishment or support

ANSWERS: 37. tuck, 38. displace, 39. lament, 40. opportune, 41. disappoint, 42. well-being, 43. earnest, 44. umbilical

45. la___t my misfortunes *v.* to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning
46. reu_____ion talks *n.* the act of bringing something back together; the reuniting of previously separated parts
47. ye__n after my old days *v.* to strongly desire or long for something
48. ea_____t conversation *adj.* characterized by sincere and severe conviction or effort; showing a deep and a genuine sense of purpose or commitment
49. ne_____ss waste *adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
50. soothing lu_____y *n.* a soft and gentle song, often sung to soothe a baby or young child and encourage sleep; any song or piece of music that has a calming or relaxing effect

ANSWERS: 45. lament, 46. reunification, 47. yearn, 48. earnest, 49. needless, 50. lullaby

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The government revoked his license to employ _____ labor crews.
n. a traveler who moves from one region or country to another, especially to find work or better living conditions; a bird or an animal that moves from one place to another
2. Her _____ in negotiations prevented a successful outcome for both parties.
n. the trait of being unyielding, obstinate, or inflexible; a refusal to change one's opinions or behavior despite pressure or persuasion
3. The training of a hawk was a _____ process.
adj. cautious and correct, and requiring a significant amount of effort
4. The band will _____ only for this show.
v. to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation
5. The conditions at the factory were deemed _____ and caused outrage among the public.
adj. lacking compassion or mercy towards humans or animals; causing or involving extreme physical or mental pain
6. The soft and gentle melody of the _____ filled the room.
n. a soft and gentle song, often sung to soothe a baby or young child and encourage sleep; any song or piece of music that has a calming or relaxing effect
7. He spoke in an _____ tone, expressing his genuine concern for the safety of everyone involved.
adj. characterized by sincere and severe conviction or effort; showing a deep and a genuine sense of purpose or commitment

ANSWERS: 1. migrant, 2. stubbornness, 3. painstaking, 4. reunite, 5. inhumane, 6. lullaby, 7. earnest

8. The _____ of the two countries was celebrated with great joy.
- n.* the act of bringing something back together; the reuniting of previously separated parts
9. You should not _____ yourself by allowing them to use you.
- v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
10. You should _____ your shirt into your trousers.
- v.* to push a stray piece of clothing or material into a particular area or position, especially to make it more orderly or comfortable
11. The bumbling _____ made it difficult to get the permits we needed.
- n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
12. She _____ for the days when things were simpler.
- v.* to strongly desire or long for something
13. Her piano _____ was a great success, and she received a standing ovation.
- n.* a public performance of music or dance, usually by a soloist or a group of performers; a detailed account of events or facts
14. The _____ deal was worth a few tens of billions of dollars.
- n.* an act of taking control of something, especially the buying out of one company by another; an act of taking control of a country or an area by force
15. The allies _____ the terms of surrender to the country.
- v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

ANSWERS: 8. reunification, 9. degrade, 10. tuck, 11. bureaucracy, 12. yearned, 13. recital, 14. takeover, 15. dictated

16. The people believe that they can _____ the country.
v. to bring or join something together so that they form a single unit
17. She _____ the loss of her beloved cat.
v. to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning
18. We are responsible for the care and _____ of all our employees.
n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
19. The _____ cord is a vital lifeline between a mother and her unborn baby.
n. relating to a flexible cord-like structure that connects a developing fetus to the placenta in the mother's uterus during pregnancy, called umbilical cord; connected or corresponding closely to something essential, such as a source of nourishment or support
20. Children often copy their parents or elder _____.
n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
21. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
22. The property dispute was resolved amicably between the two parties with the help of a _____.
n. a legal professional who provides advice and prepares legal documents, typically working in private practice on behalf of clients; a person who promotes business
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

ANSWERS: 16. unify, 17. lamented, 18. well-being, 19. umbilical, 20. siblings, 21. opportune, 22. solicitor, 23. displace

24. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

25. This _____ paperwork is wasting our time and resources.

adj. describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences

ANSWERS: 24. disappoint, 25. needless