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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

John Doerr and Ryan Panchadsaram: An action plan for solving the climate crisis | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

subtitle

n. a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language

synonym: caption, heading, inscription

(1) chart **subtitle**, (2) foreign-language **subtitle**

Make sure to turn on **subtitles** so you can understand the foreign film.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym: wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

decarbonize

v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil

fuels with renewable energy

synonym: decoke, decarburise, decarburize

- (1) **decarbonize** their manufacturing process,
- (2) **decarbonize** its energy system

We have to seek methods to **decarbonize** its fossil fuel economy.

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**.

deforestation

n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area

synonym: clear-cutting, desertification

- (1) **deforestation** of the tropics, (2) the lowest **deforestation** rate

Large-scale **deforestation** also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.

peatland

n. an area covered with peat (= a partially decayed organic matter formed from plants)

synonym: bog, marsh, moor

- (1) **peatland** ecosystem, (2) **peatland** bog

The preservation of **peatlands** is crucial in mitigating climate change, as they help regulate the Earth's temperature and reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide.

grassland

n. a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock

synonym: meadow, plain, savanna

- (1) endangered **grassland**, (2) vast **grassland**

Meadows and pastures are examples of smaller-scale **grasslands** in many parts of the world.

stubborn

adj. refusing to change one's mind or behavior despite persuasion or evidence to the contrary; unyielding; difficult to move or change

synonym : persistent, obstinate, determined

(1) **stubborn** attitude, (2) **stubborn** stains

He was so **stubborn** about his beliefs that he refused to listen to any other points of view.

accelerant

n. a substance or material that, when added to a fire, accelerates or increases the intensity of the flames; a chemical used to initiate or speed up a chemical reaction or process

synonym : fuel, kindling, igniter

(1) chemical **accelerant**, (2) **accelerant** for a fire

The police found traces of **accelerant** at the scene of the arson.

boardroom

n. a room where the board of directors of a company or organization meets

synonym : meeting room, conference room, executive room

(1) **boardroom** meeting, (2) **boardroom** decision

The corporate **boardroom** was filled with tense silence as the CEO presented the new plan.

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.

philanthropy

n. the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money

synonym : altruism, benevolence, generosity

(1) **philanthropy** organization, (2) private **philanthropy**

Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on **philanthropy**.

nutshell

n. the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something

synonym: summary, essence, covering

(1) move into a **nutshell**, (2) **nutshell** version

Can you explain your argument in a **nutshell**?

gigaton

n. a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons

(1) **gigaton-class** bomb, (2) half a **gigaton** of CO₂

The earthquake that hit the Pacific Ocean last night is said to have released about 30 **gigatons** of energy.

daunt

v. to intimidate or discourage someone, often by making them feel afraid or uncertain; to lessen someone's courage, enthusiasm, or spirit

synonym: intimidate, discourage, frighten

(1) **daunt** the enemy, (2) **daunt** his courage

The idea of skydiving can be **daunting** to some people.

aghast

adj. filled with shock, horror, or amazement

synonym: shocked, horrified, amazed

(1) **aghast** at the sight, (2) **aghast** at the situation

She was **aghast** at the news of the accident.

horrify

v. to shock or disgust greatly

synonym: shock, dismay, terrify

(1) **horrify** audience, (2) **horrify** victims

The series of terrorist attacks **horrify** the entire nation.

underhyped

adj. not receiving adequate attention or promotion; not spoken of or praised as much as deserved

synonym: underrated, underestimated, undervalued

(1) **underhyped** movie, (2) **underhyped** product

The latest album by that artist went **underhyped**, but it's

definitely worth checking out.

underestimate

v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

synonym: underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

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.

seize

v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something

synonym: grab, grasp, capture

(1) **seize** a person's property, (2) **seize** the day

He has the superpower to **seize** a business opportunity.

wreck

n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident

synonym: collapse, destruction, devastation

(1) the house was a **wreck**, (2) a worthless **wreck**

The divers accidentally discovered a **wreck** on the ocean floor.

lithium

n. a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

synonym: lithy, Li, salt

(1) **lithium** carbonate, (2) **lithium** mining

Lithium-ion batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.

inaction

n. the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed

synonym : idleness, passivity, inertia

(1) excuse for **inaction**, (2) consequences of **inaction**

Inaction in response to climate change poses a dire threat to our future.

pollute

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

synonym : contaminate, corrupt, degrade

(1) **pollute** the air, (2) **pollute** the thread

We should do our best not to **pollute** the environment.

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.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

synonym : intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

inequity

n. a lack of fairness or justice; an unfair or unequal situation or practice

synonym : injustice, unfairness, bias

(1) **inequity** in education, (2) market **inequity**

There's an **inequity** in the criminal justice system that needs to be addressed.

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.

livelihood

n. a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.

synonym: occupation, living, income

(1) a means of **livelihood**, (2) **livelihood** assistance

I could no longer earn my own **livelihood**.

evaporate

v. to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually

synonym: vaporize, disappear, vanish

(1) **evaporate** the water, (2) **evaporate** almost overnight

The sun will **evaporate** the mist.

concerted

adj. involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.

synonym: coordinated, planned, united

(1) **concerted** effort, (2) apply **concerted** pressure

The NGO launched a **concerted** campaign to raise awareness about the issue.

mobilize

v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

synonym: activate, rally, marshal

(1) **mobilize** cooperation, (2) **mobilize** a stiff joint

The military **mobilized** troops to the border.

surpass

v. to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something

synonym: excel, outdo, outperform

(1) **surpass** imagination, (2) **surpass** \$20 billion in sales

The athlete's record-breaking performance **surpassed** all expectations.

intergenerational

adj. relating to, involving, or affecting different generations

(1) **intergenerational** conflict, (2) promote

intergenerational ties

The results of that survey clearly show **intergenerational** differences in attitudes toward LGBTQ.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. mo_____ze a stiff joint | <i>v.</i> to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose |
| 2. a worthless wr__k | <i>n.</i> a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident |
| 3. ev_____te the water | <i>v.</i> to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually |
| 4. liv_____od assistance | <i>n.</i> a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc. |
| 5. an op_____ne remark | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 6. imp_____ion on stage | <i>n.</i> the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation |
| 7. ev_____te almost overnight | <i>v.</i> to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually |
| 8. in_____ty in education | <i>n.</i> a lack of fairness or justice; an unfair or unequal situation or practice |
| 9. market in_____ty | <i>n.</i> a lack of fairness or justice; an unfair or unequal situation or practice |
| 10. op_____ne occasion | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |

ANSWERS: 1. mobilize, 2. wreck, 3. evaporate, 4. livelihood, 5. opportune, 6. improvisation, 7. evaporate, 8. inequity, 9. inequity, 10. opportune

11. da__t the enemy *v.* to intimidate or discourage someone, often by making them feel afraid or uncertain; to lessen someone's courage, enthusiasm, or spirit
12. und_____ate the probability *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
13. endangered gr_____nd *n.* a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock
14. su_____s \$20 billion in sales *v.* to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something
15. chart su_____le *n.* a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language
16. foreign-language su_____le *n.* a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language
17. private phi_____opy *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money

ANSWERS: 11. daunt, 12. underestimate, 13. grassland, 14. surpass, 15. subtitle, 16. subtitle, 17. philanthropy

18. e__t air pollution *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
19. mo____ze cooperation *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
20. ho____y audience *v.* to shock or disgust greatly
21. st____rn attitude *adj.* refusing to change one's mind or behavior despite persuasion or evidence to the contrary; unyielding; difficult to move or change
22. consequences of in____on *n.* the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed
23. the house was a wr__k *n.* a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
24. half a gi____n of CO2 *n.* a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
25. nu____ll version *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
26. excuse for in____on *n.* the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed
27. li____m mining *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

ANSWERS: 18. emit, 19. mobilize, 20. horrify, 21. stubborn, 22. inaction, 23. wreck, 24. gigaton, 25. nutshell, 26. inaction, 27. lithium

28. in_____te a new method *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
29. li_____m carbonate *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
30. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
31. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
32. st_____rn stains *adj.* refusing to change one's mind or behavior despite persuasion or evidence to the contrary; unyielding; difficult to move or change
33. se__e a person's property *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
34. def_____ion of the tropics *n.* the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
35. se__e the day *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
36. am_____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

ANSWERS: 28. innovate, 29. lithium, 30. electrify, 31. electrify, 32. stubborn, 33. seize, 34. deforestation, 35. seize, 36. amplify

37. pe_____nd bog *n.* an area covered with peat (= a partially decayed organic matter formed from plants)
38. po_____e the air *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
39. bo_____om decision *n.* a room where the board of directors of a company or organization meets
40. acc_____nt for a fire *n.* a substance or material that, when added to a fire, accelerates or increases the intensity of the flames; a chemical used to initiate or speed up a chemical reaction or process
41. a means of liv_____od *n.* a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
42. dec_____ze their manufacturing process *v.* to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
43. e__t a gamma ray *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
44. live in af_____nt circumstances *adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
45. und_____ed product *adj.* not receiving adequate attention or promotion; not spoken of or praised as much as deserved
46. su_____s imagination *v.* to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something

ANSWERS: 37. peatland, 38. pollute, 39. boardroom, 40. accelerant, 41. livelihood, 42. decarbonize, 43. emit, 44. affluent, 45. underhyped, 46. surpass

47. gi_____n-class bomb *n.* a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
48. da__t his courage *v.* to intimidate or discourage someone, often by making them feel afraid or uncertain; to lessen someone's courage, enthusiasm, or spirit
49. af_____nt society *adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
50. dec_____ze its energy system *v.* to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
51. ho_____y victims *v.* to shock or disgust greatly
52. ag__t at the sight *adj.* filled with shock, horror, or amazement
53. ag__t at the situation *adj.* filled with shock, horror, or amazement
54. in_____te the quality of his life *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
55. promote int_____nal ties *adj.* relating to, involving, or affecting different generations
56. und_____ate an enemy *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
57. phi_____opy organization *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
58. move into a nu_____ll *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something

ANSWERS: 47. gigaton, 48. daunt, 49. affluent, 50. decarbonize, 51. horrify, 52. aghast, 53. aghast, 54. innovate, 55. intergenerational, 56. underestimate, 57. philanthropy, 58. nutshell

59. po____e the thread *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
60. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
61. und_____ed movie *adj.* not receiving adequate attention or promotion; not spoken of or praised as much as deserved
62. bo_____om meeting *n.* a room where the board of directors of a company or organization meets
63. pe_____nd ecosystem *n.* an area covered with peat (= a partially decayed organic matter formed from plants)
64. vast gr_____nd *n.* a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock
65. co_____ed effort *adj.* involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
66. the lowest def_____ion rate *n.* the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
67. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
68. apply co_____ed pressure *adj.* involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
69. int_____nal conflict *adj.* relating to, involving, or affecting different generations
70. chemical acc_____nt *n.* a substance or material that, when added to a fire, accelerates or increases the intensity of the flames; a chemical used to initiate or speed up a chemical reaction or process

ANSWERS: 59. pollute, 60. improvisation, 61. underhyped, 62. boardroom, 63. peatland, 64. grassland, 65. concerted, 66. deforestation, 67. amplify, 68. concerted, 69. intergenerational, 70. accelerant

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The latest album by that artist went _____ but it's definitely worth checking out.
adj. not receiving adequate attention or promotion; not spoken of or praised as much as deserved
2. There's an _____ in the criminal justice system that needs to be addressed.
n. a lack of fairness or justice; an unfair or unequal situation or practice
3. She lived in an _____ neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.
adj. rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
4. _____ in response to climate change poses a dire threat to our future.
n. the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed
5. Make sure to turn on _____ so you can understand the foreign film.
n. a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language
6. The idea of skydiving can be _____ to some people.
v. to intimidate or discourage someone, often by making them feel afraid or uncertain; to lessen someone's courage, enthusiasm, or spirit
7. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 1. underhyped, 2. inequity, 3. affluent, 4. Inaction, 5. subtitles, 6. daunting, 7. opportune

8. The corporate _____ was filled with tense silence as the CEO presented the new plan.
n. a room where the board of directors of a company or organization meets
9. The earthquake that hit the Pacific Ocean last night is said to have released about 30 _____ of energy.
n. a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
10. The results of that survey clearly show _____ differences in attitudes toward LGBTQ.
adj. relating to, involving, or affecting different generations
11. During the unloading, the container box _____ a clicking sound.
v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
12. Large-scale _____ also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.
n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
13. We should do our best not to _____ the environment.
v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
14. We have to seek methods to _____ its fossil fuel economy.
v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
15. Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on _____.
n. the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money

ANSWERS: 8. boardroom, 9. gigatons, 10. intergenerational, 11. emits, 12. deforestation, 13. pollute, 14. decarbonize, 15. philanthropy

16. The athlete's record-breaking performance _____ all expectations.
- v. to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something
17. You might need to _____ this point.
- v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
18. The divers accidentally discovered a _____ on the ocean floor.
- n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
19. The series of terrorist attacks _____ the entire nation.
- v. to shock or disgust greatly
20. He has the superpower to _____ a business opportunity.
- v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
21. The NGO launched a _____ campaign to raise awareness about the issue.
- adj. involving the joint activity of more than one person, government, country, etc.
22. I could no longer earn my own _____.
- n. a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
23. Meadows and pastures are examples of smaller-scale _____ in many parts of the world.
- n. a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock

ANSWERS: 16. surpassed, 17. amplify, 18. wreck, 19. horrify, 20. seize, 21. concerted, 22. livelihood, 23. grasslands

24. Companies developing self-driving cars consistently _____ the emerging technologies.
- v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
25. The military _____ troops to the border.
- v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
26. He was so _____ about his beliefs that he refused to listen to any other points of view.
- adj. refusing to change one's mind or behavior despite persuasion or evidence to the contrary; unyielding; difficult to move or change
27. She was _____ at the news of the accident.
- adj. filled with shock, horror, or amazement
28. The sun will _____ the mist.
- v. to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
29. The police found traces of _____ at the scene of the arson.
- n. a substance or material that, when added to a fire, accelerates or increases the intensity of the flames; a chemical used to initiate or speed up a chemical reaction or process
30. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
- v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
31. _____ batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.
- n. a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

ANSWERS: 24. innovate, 25. mobilized, 26. stubborn, 27. aghast, 28. evaporate, 29. accelerant, 30. electrify, 31. Lithium-ion

32. They frequently _____ their abilities and felt inferior.
v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
33. Can you explain your argument in a _____
n. the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
34. The preservation of _____ is crucial in mitigating climate change, as they help regulate the Earth's temperature and reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide.
n. an area covered with peat (= a partially decayed organic matter formed from plants)
35. 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

ANSWERS: 32. underestimated, 33. nutshell?, 34. peatlands, 35. improvisation