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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mona Chalabi: What we miss when we focus on the average | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/mona_chalabi_what_we_m iss_when_we_focus_on_the_average



All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

salary	 <i>n</i>. a fixed amount of money that employees, especially those who work in an office, receive for doing their job, usually paid every month <i>synonym</i>: compensation, earnings, pay
	(1) a handsome salary , (2) salary after taxes
	What are your annual salary expectations?
tempting	<i>adj.</i> likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe <i>synonym</i> : alluring, attractive, inviting
	(1) tempting offer, (2) sound very tempting
	The chocolate cake was too tempting for me to resist.
neat	<i>adj.</i> clean or tidy, with everything in its place <i>synonym</i> : tidy, uncluttered, refined
	(1) a neat piece of work, (2) neat idea
	She has neat habits.
messy	 adj. disorganized and untidy synonym: cluttered, disorganized, untidy (1) messy data, (2) messy handling
	His messy bedroom is always a source of frustration for his mother.

chaos	 n. a state of complete confusion or disorder, often characterized by a lack of predictability or control synonym: disorder, turmoil, confusion
	(1) chaos theory, (2) midst of chaos
	The conference room was in chaos as everyone tried to speak at once.
perspective	 <i>n</i>. a confident attitude toward something; a particular style of thinking about something <i>synonym</i>: viewpoint, standpoint, outlook
	(1) a perspective view, (2) the perspective of the battle His father's death changed his whole perspective on life.
instance	<i>n.</i> a particular example or single occurrence of something <i>synonym</i> : example, sample, illustration
	(1) for instance , (2) notable instance
	These articles cite five instances of climate change.
statistics	<i>n</i> . the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
	(1) statistics for cancer, (2) official statistics
	The statistics demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.
cigarette	 <i>n.</i> a small cylindrical roll of finely cut tobacco leaves wrapped in paper for smoking <i>synonym</i>: smoke, cigar, tobacco
	(1) a mild cigarette , (2) a cigarette case
	He lit a cigarette and leaned against the wall.
accord	 <i>n</i>. an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb) allow to have <i>synonym</i>: alliance, pact, agreement
	(1) accord with public opinion, (2) binational accord
	The organization finally signed a peace accord .

percentage	 n. the number, amount, or rate of something, which is usually the amount per hundred synonym: rate, ratio, portion
	(1) the percentage of the gold content, (2) a high
	percentage
	What is the percentage of the consumption tax in the United
	States?
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.
native	<i>adj.</i> connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place
	synonym: endemic, domestic, aboriginal
	(1) native to Africa, (2) native language
	The vegetation here is almost wholly native .
sizable	adj. large in size or amount
	synonym: large, significant, considerable
	(1) sizable portion, (2) sizable audience
	He has a sizable fortune and is one of the wealthiest people
	in the city.
racial	 adj. of or related to the race (= classification of humans into groups based on physical traits or social relations) synonym: ethnic, tribal, ethnical
	(1) racial prejudice, (2) racial and ethnic backgrounds
	A minor racial conflict later led to a civil war.
ethnic	<i>adj.</i> relating or belonging to a group of people who share a cultural tradition

	synonym: racial, ethnical, tribal
	(1) ethnic minority, (2) single ethnic group
	Each ethnic group has its unique rituals.
digit	 n. one of the elements that collectively form a system of numeration; a finger, thumb, or toe synonym: number, integer, numeral
	(1) digit identifier, (2) the digit in the hundreds place
	We must enter a six- digit number to unlock the safe.
indicator	 n. something that shows or points out what a situation is like or how a situation is changing synonym: barometer, signal, index
	(1) indicator lamp, (2) performance indicators
	Several IT millionaires have shown that the level of education
	is a relatively poor indicator of whether a business can be successfully run.
margin	 n. the space around the edge of a page or document; (finance) the net sales minus the cost of goods and services sold
	synonym: edge, border, periphery
	(1) margin error, (2) a profit margin
	Unfortunately, the book's margin was too small to make notes.
communal	 adj. belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use synonym: collaborative, combined, collective
	(1) communal swimming pool, (2) communal combination of funds
	Communal elections were held in several European countries.
scatter	<i>v.</i> to cause to separate and go in different directions <i>synonym</i> : disperse, spread, bestrew

	(1) scatter seeds, (2) scatter around the internet
	The hunter's approach scattered the geese.
typical	 adj. having the usual characteristics or traits of a specific group of things synonym: characteristic, usual, distinctive
	(1) typical leader, (2) fairly typical symptoms
	This artwork is typical of her work.
undervalue	v. to assign too low a value to somethingsynonym: underrate, underestimate, devalue
	(1) undervalue his contribution, (2) undervalue the potential
	He undervalued the importance of teamwork and struggled to succeed.
deviate	 v. to depart from an established course or plan; to change direction or take a different route or approach synonym: stray, diverge, veer
	(1) deviate from the norm, (2) deviate from the plan
	It's important not to deviate from the established safety procedures.
norm	<i>n.</i> something that is regarded as usual, typical, or standard <i>synonym</i> : criterion, mean, standard
	(1) norm of action, (2) cultural norm
	The systems we have developed has accepted as industry
	norms.
nickname	 n. a familiar or humorous name given to a person or thing instead of or as well as the real name synonym: moniker, sobriquet, handle
	(1) endearing nickname , (2) nickname for a person
	The team has a nickname for their star player: "The Ace."

astray	<i>adv.</i> away from the right path or direction <i>synonym</i> : off course, misdirected, wayward
	(1) led astray by superstition, (2) gone astray
	He wandered astray from the path and got lost in the forest.
puppet	 n. a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else synonym: marionette, dummy, mannequin
	(1) puppet theater, (2) corporate puppet
	The politician was merely a puppet for the wealthy elite.
hijab	 n. a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck synonym: veil, headscarf, cover
	(1) woman's hijab , (2) hijab garment
	Many Muslim women wear a hijab as a symbol of their religious beliefs.
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.
impressive	<i>adj.</i> arousing admiration due to size, quality, or skill <i>synonym</i> : impactful, remarkable, exceptional
	(1) impressive performances, (2) an impressive array of facts
	The budget reduction was an impressive feat for our nation.
generation	 n. all the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively; the production of heat or electricity synonym: cohort, age group, era

	 (1) generation gap, (2) the generation of electricity The younger generation has different values and beliefs than the older one. 		
argue	 v. to express differing opinions or points of view, often in a heated or contentious manner; to present a case or reasoning to persuade or convince others synonym: debate, dispute, quarrel 		
	(1) argue a case, (2) argue passionately		
	The couple began to argue over which restaurant to go to for dinner.		
retire	 v. to withdraw from one's position or occupation, especially because of age synonym: relinquish, step down, withdraw 		
	(1) retire voluntarily, (2) retire after four terms		
	After working for the company for 30 years, she decided to		
	retire from her job.		
avid	adj. characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit, especially of an interest or activity		
	synonym: enthusiastic, eager, fervent		
	(1) avid baseball fan, (2) have avid eyes		
	She was an avid reader and spent hours every day lost in a book.		
ugly	<i>adj.</i> unattractive in appearance; unpleasant to look at <i>synonym</i> : unattractive, unsightly, repulsive		
	(1) an ugly sound, (2) ugly building		
	The ugly truth was that he had been lying to her for months.		
grandchild	<i>n.</i> a child of someone's son or daughter <i>synonym</i> : offspring, descendant, progeny		
	(1) grandchild-grandparent relationship, (2) grandchild development		
	The grandparents take care of their grandchild while the		

parents are at work.

moving	<i>adj.</i> causing strong emotions or feelings, especially sadness or sympathy
	synonym: emotional, poignant, touching
	(1) moving experience, (2) moving ceremony
	His moving speech about his struggles with addiction
	brought tears to the audience's eyes.
medical	 <i>adj.</i> relating to the treatment of illness or injuries; relating to the practice of medicine <i>synonym</i>: health, disease, treatment
	(1) a medical opinion, (2) temporary medical treatment
	The medical team worked quickly to save the patient's life.
	The medical learn worked quickly to save the patient's life.
peer	<i>n.</i> a person who has the same age, status, or ability <i>synonym</i> : fellow, associate, counterpart
	(1) peer group, (2) peer review
	Among young people, peer pressure can be pretty influential.
ignore	v. to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
	synonym: neglect, disregard, shun
	(1) ignore her advice, (2) ignore a ban
	Since independence, the area has been completely ignored .
insight	 n. the ability to gain an accurate and deep understanding of people or situations; an accurate and deep understanding of what something is like synonym: wisdom, discernment, understanding
	(1) a profound insight, (2) share my insights
	We gained various insights by analyzing the vast amount of
	data owned by the company.

Session 2: Spelling

1.	single etc group	adj.	relating or belonging to a group of people who share a cultural tradition
2.	a cite case	n.	a small cylindrical roll of finely cut tobacco leaves wrapped in paper for smoking
3.	undate the probability	v.	to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
4.	corporate put	n.	a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
5.	nime for a person	n.	a familiar or humorous name given to a person or thing instead of or as well as the real name
6.	nae to Africa	adj.	connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place
7.	dee from the plan	v.	to depart from an established course or plan; to change direction or take a different route or approach
8.	inor lamp	n.	something that shows or points out what a situation is like or how a situation is changing
9.	a profit man	n.	the space around the edge of a page or document; (finance) the net sales minus the cost of goods and services sold

ANSWERS: 1. ethnic, 2. cigarette, 3. underestimate, 4. puppet, 5. nickname, 6. native, 7. deviate, 8. indicator, 9. margin

10. plting sales	v.	to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
11. the perge of the gold content	n.	the number, amount, or rate of something, which is usually the amount per hundred
12. scr seeds	<i>v</i> .	to cause to separate and go in different directions
13. mog experience	adj.	causing strong emotions or feelings, especially sadness or sympathy
14. dit identifier	n.	one of the elements that collectively form a system of numeration; a finger, thumb, or toe
15. etc minority	adj.	relating or belonging to a group of people who share a cultural tradition
16. sie portion	adj.	large in size or amount
17. acd with public opinion	n.	an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb) allow to have
18. a profound int	n.	the ability to gain an accurate and deep understanding of people or situations; an accurate and deep understanding of what something is like
19. mog ceremony	adj.	causing strong emotions or feelings, especially sadness or sympathy
20. ree after four terms	ν.	to withdraw from one's position or occupation, especially because of age
21. grald-grandparent relationship	n.	a child of someone's son or daughter
22. ige her advice	v.	to intentionally not listen or pay attention to

ANSWERS: 10. plummet, 11. percentage, 12. scatter, 13. moving, 14. digit, 15. ethnic, 16. sizable, 17. accord, 18. insight, 19. moving, 20. retire, 21. grandchild, 22. ignore

23. ige a ban	ν.	to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
24. nm of action	n.	something that is regarded as usual, typical, or standard
25. tyl leader	adj.	having the usual characteristics or traits of a specific group of things
26. chs theory	n.	a state of complete confusion or disorder, often characterized by a lack of predictability or control
27. sie audience	adj.	large in size or amount
28. nt idea	adj.	clean or tidy, with everything in its place
29. ree voluntarily	ν.	to withdraw from one's position or occupation, especially because of age
30. notable ince	n.	a particular example or single occurrence of something
31. nae language	adj.	connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place
32. the genon of electricity	n.	all the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively; the production of heat or electricity
33. gone asy	adv	away from the right path or direction
34. coal combination of funds	adj.	belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use
35. have ad eyes	adj.	characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit, especially of an interest or activity

ANSWERS: 23. ignore, 24. norm, 25. typical, 26. chaos, 27. sizable, 28. neat, 29. retire, 30. instance, 31. native, 32. generation, 33. astray, 34. communal, 35. avid

36. cultural nm	n.	something that is regarded as usual, typical, or standard
37. uy building	adj.	unattractive in appearance; unpleasant to look at
38. pr review	n.	a person who has the same age, status, or ability
39. undate an enemy	ν.	to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
40. the perve of the battle	n.	a confident attitude toward something; a particular style of thinking about something
41. an impve array of facts	adj.	arousing admiration due to size, quality, or skill
42. led asy by superstition	adv.	away from the right path or direction
43. a high perge	n.	the number, amount, or rate of something, which is usually the amount per hundred
44. a mel opinion	adj.	relating to the treatment of illness or injuries; relating to the practice of medicine
45. impve performances	adj.	arousing admiration due to size, quality, or skill
46. a handsome say	n.	a fixed amount of money that employees, especially those who work in an office, receive for doing their job, usually paid every month
47. endearing nime	n.	a familiar or humorous name given to a person or thing instead of or as well as the real name

ANSWERS: 36. norm, 37. ugly, 38. peer, 39. underestimate, 40. perspective, 41. impressive, 42. astray, 43. percentage, 44. medical, 45. impressive, 46. salary, 47. nickname

48. the dit in the hundreds place	n.	one of the elements that collectively form a system of numeration; a finger, thumb, or toe
49. undue his contribution	ν.	to assign too low a value to something
50. genon gap	n.	all the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively; the production of heat or electricity
51. a mild cite	n.	a small cylindrical roll of finely cut tobacco leaves wrapped in paper for smoking
52. pr group	n.	a person who has the same age, status, or ability
53. say after taxes	n.	a fixed amount of money that employees, especially those who work in an office, receive for doing their job, usually paid every month
54. raI and ethnic backgrounds	adj.	of or related to the race (= classification of humans into groups based on physical traits or social relations)
55. temporary meI treatment	adj.	relating to the treatment of illness or injuries; relating to the practice of medicine
56. performance inors	n.	something that shows or points out what a situation is like or how a situation is changing
57. hib garment	n.	a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck
58. woman's hib	n.	a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck

ANSWERS: 48. digit, 49. undervalue, 50. generation, 51. cigarette, 52. peer, 53. salary, 54. racial, 55. medical, 56. indicator, 57. hijab, 58. hijab

59. fairly tyI symptoms	adj.	having the usual characteristics or traits of a specific group of things
60. put theater	n.	a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
61. an uy sound	adj.	unattractive in appearance; unpleasant to look at
62. ral prejudice	adj.	of or related to the race (= classification of humans into groups based on physical traits or social relations)
63. scr around the internet	v.	to cause to separate and go in different directions
64. dee from the norm	v.	to depart from an established course or plan; to change direction or take a different route or approach
65. teng offer	adj.	likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
66. ad baseball fan	adj.	characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit, especially of an interest or activity
67. a nt piece of work	adj.	clean or tidy, with everything in its place
68. official stacs	n.	the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
69. stacs for cancer	n.	the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

ANSWERS: 59. typical, 60. puppet, 61. ugly, 62. racial, 63. scatter, 64. deviate, 65. tempting, 66. avid, 67. neat, 68. statistics, 69. statistics

70. for ince	n.	a particular example or single occurrence of something
71. sound very teng	adj.	likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
72. man error	n.	the space around the edge of a page or document; (finance) the net sales minus the cost of goods and services sold
73. mey handling	adj.	disorganized and untidy
74. grald development	n.	a child of someone's son or daughter
75. plt against other major currencies	v.	to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
76. are passionately	v.	to express differing opinions or points of view, often in a heated or contentious manner; to present a case or reasoning to persuade or convince others
77. a perve view	n.	a confident attitude toward something; a particular style of thinking about something
78. binational acd	n.	an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb) allow to have
79. share my ints	n.	the ability to gain an accurate and deep understanding of people or situations; an accurate and deep understanding of what something is like
80. coal swimming pool	adj.	belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use

ANSWERS: 70. instance, 71. tempting, 72. margin, 73. messy, 74. grandchild, 75. plummet, 76. argue, 77. perspective, 78. accord, 79. insight, 80. communal

81. mey data	adj.	disorganized and untidy
82. midst of chs	n.	a state of complete confusion or disorder, often characterized by a lack of predictability or control
83. are a case	v.	to express differing opinions or points of view, often in a heated or contentious manner; to present a case or reasoning to persuade or convince others
84. undue the potential	v.	to assign too low a value to something

ANSWERS: 81. messy, 82. chaos, 83. argue, 84. undervalue

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

- 1. This artwork is _____ of her work.
- *adj.* having the usual characteristics or traits of a specific group of things
- 2. These articles cite five _____ of climate change.
- *n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
- 3. The organization finally signed a peace _____.
- *n.* an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb) allow to have
- 4. His father's death changed his whole _____ on life.
- *n.* a confident attitude toward something; a particular style of thinking about something
- 5. The vegetation here is almost wholly _____.
- *adj.* connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place
- 6. We gained various ______ by analyzing the vast amount of data owned by the company.
- *n.* the ability to gain an accurate and deep understanding of people or situations; an accurate and deep understanding of what something is like
- 7. He has a ______ fortune and is one of the wealthiest people in the city.
- adj. large in size or amount
- 8. The hunter's approach ______ the geese.
- *v*. to cause to separate and go in different directions

ANSWERS: 1. typical, 2. instances, 3. accord, 4. perspective, 5. native, 6. insights, 7. sizable, 8. scattered

- 9. His _____ bedroom is always a source of frustration for his mother.
- adj. disorganized and untidy
- 10. His ______ speech about his struggles with addiction brought tears to the audience's eyes.
- adj. causing strong emotions or feelings, especially sadness or sympathy
- 11. He ______ the importance of teamwork and struggled to succeed.
- *v.* to assign too low a value to something
- 12. After working for the company for 30 years, she decided to _____ from her job.
- *v.* to withdraw from one's position or occupation, especially because of age
- 13. Several IT millionaires have shown that the level of education is a relatively poor ______ of whether a business can be successfully run.
- *n.* something that shows or points out what a situation is like or how a situation is changing
- 14. What are your annual _____ expectations?
- *n.* a fixed amount of money that employees, especially those who work in an office, receive for doing their job, usually paid every month
- 15. The chocolate cake was too ______ for me to resist.
- *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
- 16. We must enter a six-____ number to unlock the safe.
- *n.* one of the elements that collectively form a system of numeration; a finger, thumb, or toe

ANSWERS: 9. messy, 10. moving, 11. undervalued, 12. retire, 13. indicator, 14. salary, 15. tempting, 16. digit

- 17. ______ elections were held in several European countries.
- *adj.* belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use
- 18. The ______ team worked quickly to save the patient's life.
- adj. relating to the treatment of illness or injuries; relating to the practice of medicine
- 19. Each _____ group has its unique rituals.
- *adj.* relating or belonging to a group of people who share a cultural tradition
- 20. The systems we have developed has accepted as industry _____.
- *n.* something that is regarded as usual, typical, or standard
- 21. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
- *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
- 22. The _____ truth was that he had been lying to her for months.
- adj. unattractive in appearance; unpleasant to look at
- 23. The politician was merely a _____ for the wealthy elite.
- *n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
- 24. He wandered ______ from the path and got lost in the forest.
- *adv.* away from the right path or direction
- 25. The conference room was in _____ as everyone tried to speak at once.
 - *n.* a state of complete confusion or disorder, often characterized by a lack of predictability or control

ANSWERS: 17. Communal, 18. medical, 19. ethnic, 20. norms, 21. grandchild, 22. ugly, 23. puppet, 24. astray, 25. chaos

- 26. Unfortunately, the book's _____ was too small to make notes.
 - *n.* the space around the edge of a page or document; (finance) the net sales minus the cost of goods and services sold
- 27. It's important not to ______ from the established safety procedures.
- *v.* to depart from an established course or plan; to change direction or take a different route or approach
- 28. The couple began to _____ over which restaurant to go to for dinner.
- v. to express differing opinions or points of view, often in a heated or contentious manner; to present a case or reasoning to persuade or convince others
- 29. 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
- 30. She has ____ habits.
- adj. clean or tidy, with everything in its place
- 31. She was an _____ reader and spent hours every day lost in a book.
- *adj.* characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit, especially of an interest or activity
- 32. What is the ______ of the consumption tax in the United States?
- *n*. the number, amount, or rate of something, which is usually the amount per hundred
- 33. Among young people, _____ pressure can be pretty influential.
- *n.* a person who has the same age, status, or ability

ANSWERS: 26. margin, 27. deviate, 28. argue, 29. plummeted, 30. neat, 31. avid, 32. percentage, 33. peer

- 34. The younger ______ has different values and beliefs than the older one.
- *n.* all the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively; the production of heat or electricity
- 35. The budget reduction was an ______ feat for our nation.
- adj. arousing admiration due to size, quality, or skill
- 36. He lit a _____ and leaned against the wall.
- *n.* a small cylindrical roll of finely cut tobacco leaves wrapped in paper for smoking
- 37. A minor _____ conflict later led to a civil war.
- *adj.* of or related to the race (= classification of humans into groups based on physical traits or social relations)
- 38. Many Muslim women wear a _____ as a symbol of their religious beliefs.
- *n.* a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck
- 39. The team has a ______ for their star player: "The Ace."
- *n.* a familiar or humorous name given to a person or thing instead of or as well as the real name
- 40. They frequently ______ their abilities and felt inferior.
- *v*. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
- 41. Since independence, the area has been completely _____.
- *v.* to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
- 42. The ______ demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.
 - *n.* the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

ANSWERS: 34. generation, 35. impressive, 36. cigarette, 37. racial, 38. hijab, 39. nickname, 40. underestimated, 41. ignored, 42. statistics

ANSWERS: