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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Itamar Mann: A new approach to defending the human rights of migrants | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/itamar\\_mann\\_a\\_new\\_approach\\_to\\_defending\\_the\\_human\\_rights\\_of\\_migrants](https://www.ted.com/talks/itamar_mann_a_new_approach_to_defending_the_human_rights_of_migrants)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### topple

*v.* to cause to lose balance and fall over, especially by pushing

*synonym*: overturn, capsized, upset

(1) **topple** communist rule, (2) **topple** off a ledge

The statue was old and unstable, so it easily **toppled** over.

### dictator

*n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force

*synonym*: autocrat, tyrant, despot

(1) military **dictator**, (2) a **dictator** with enormous powers

A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the **dictator**.

### grove

*n.* a small group of trees growing closely together

*synonym*: copse, thicket, underbrush

(1) a bamboo **grove**, (2) citrus **grove**

They walked through the **grove** of trees and admired the natural beauty.

### undocumented

*adj.* not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission

(1) **undocumented** worker, (2) **undocumented** command

The border patrol has recently been focusing on cracking

down on **undocumented** non-citizens.

## 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.

## overthrow

*v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force

*synonym*: defeat, destroy, conquer

(1) **overthrow** the government, (2) **overthrow** the theory  
The group aims to **overthrow** the military regime.

## dignify

*v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

*synonym*: elevate, ennoble, honor

(1) **dignify** the role, (2) **dignify** the occasion  
It's important to **dignify** other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.

## unfold

*v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

*synonym*: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller  
The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

## exacerbate

*v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse

*synonym*: worsen, aggravate, escalate

(1) **exacerbate** the situation, (2) **exacerbate** symptoms  
The heat wave **exacerbated** the drought conditions.

## determinant

*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

*synonym* : cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

## regretful

*adj.* feeling or expressing sadness, disappointment, or remorse about a past action, decision, or situation; characterized by a sense of regret or sorrow

*synonym* : remorseful, apologetic, sorry

(1) **regretful** words, (2) **regretful** apology

I am **regretful** of the way I spoke to my friend yesterday.

## militia

*n.* a military force comprised of trained soldiers who are usually a citizen or have other jobs

*synonym* : reserves

(1) **militia** groups, (2) armed **militia**

**Militia** suddenly occupied the presidential palace.

## rampant

*adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled

*synonym* : prevalent, dense, uncontrolled

(1) **rampant** growth of weeds, (2) **rampant** corruption

In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules tend to be **rampant**.

## drown

*v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater

*synonym* : douse, drench, overwhelm

(1) **drown** in a bath, (2) I was **drowned** in work

Floods have the potential to **drown** any subsurface animals easily.

## overcrowded

*adj.* containing too many people or things in a particular space, making it cramped or uncomfortable

*synonym* : packed, congested, jammed

(1) **overcrowded** refugee camp, (2) **overcrowded** with passengers

The school district is facing a problem with **overcrowded** classrooms.

## confrontation

*n.* the act of facing or dealing with something directly and openly; a direct and often hostile encounter or disagreement

*synonym* : face-off, conflict, competition

(1) violent **confrontation**, (2) verbal **confrontation**

The **confrontation** between the two nations escalated into a full-blown war.

## liberate

*v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

*synonym* : emancipate, release, set free

(1) **liberate** people from oppression, (2) **liberate** potential

The prisoners were **liberated** after the war ended.

## courageous

*adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

*synonym* : brave, valiant, fearless

(1) make a **courageous** decision, (2) **courageous** rescue attempt

He was a **courageous** soldier who had served his country with honor.

## reconstruct

*v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

*synonym* : rebuild, revamp, reorganize

(1) **reconstruct** an image, (2) **reconstruct** the original text

They've decided to **reconstruct** a ruined castle.

## hesitant

*adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision

*synonym* : indecisive, uncertain, reluctant

(1) **hesitant** response, (2) **hesitant** to take action

She was **hesitant** to speak in public but eventually overcame her fear.

## circumvent

*v.* to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

*synonym* : evade, bypass, outsmart

(1) **circumvent** rules, (2) **circumvent** authority

I took a back road to work on time to **circumvent** the traffic jam.

## sidestep

*v.* to step to one side to avoid something, especially to avoid confrontation or criticism; to evade or bypass something, such as a difficult issue or problem

*synonym* : avoid, elude, dodge

(1) **sidestep** issue, (2) **sidestep** questions

I had to **sidestep** his attempt to start an argument and stay focused on the topic.

## generality

*n.* a general statement or principle that applies to a large group or category rather than to a specific instance; the quality of being general or universal

*synonym* : vagueness, abstraction, universality

(1) **generality** statement, (2) lack of **generality**

The **generality** of the study's findings was consistent with previous research.

## mediate

*v.* to try to bring about an agreement or understanding between people who are in conflict

*synonym* : arbitrate, reconcile, intervene

(1) **mediate** allergic reaction, (2) **mediate** a negotiation

The teacher had to **mediate** a disagreement between two students over a stolen pencil.

## redefine

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

*synonym*: reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role

The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

## corruptible

*adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

*synonym*: bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

## inhabit

v. to live in a specific location; to reside

*synonym*: settle, occupy, populate

(1) **inhabit** a cave, (2) **inhabit** the stomach

I have no idea what sort of folks **inhabit** the neighborhood.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. ra\_\_\_\_\_t growth of weeds  
*adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
2. cir\_\_\_\_\_nt authority  
*v.* to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle
3. a bamboo gr\_\_e  
*n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
4. gen\_\_\_\_\_ty statement  
*n.* a general statement or principle that applies to a large group or category rather than to a specific instance; the quality of being general or universal
5. exa\_\_\_\_\_te symptoms  
*v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse
6. ove\_\_\_\_\_ed with passengers  
*adj.* containing too many people or things in a particular space, making it cramped or uncomfortable
7. mi\_\_\_\_\_t worker  
*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
8. re\_\_\_\_\_ul apology  
*adj.* feeling or expressing sadness, disappointment, or remorse about a past action, decision, or situation; characterized by a sense of regret or sorrow

ANSWERS: 1. rampant, 2. circumvent, 3. grove, 4. generality, 5. exacerbate, 6. overcrowded, 7. migrant, 8. regretful

- |                                 |      |                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9. dr__n in a bath              | v.   | to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater                                                                                               |
| 10. rec____ct the original text | v.   | to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed                                                                                        |
| 11. military di____or           | n.   | a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force                                                 |
| 12. armed mi____a               | n.   | a military force comprised of trained soldiers who are usually a citizen or have other jobs                                                                |
| 13. me____e allergic reaction   | v.   | to try to bring about an agreement or understanding between people who are in conflict                                                                     |
| 14. make a cou____us decision   | adj. | able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching                                                                                                |
| 15. si____ep questions          | v.   | to step to one side to avoid something, especially to avoid confrontation or criticism; to evade or bypass something, such as a difficult issue or problem |
| 16. mi____a groups              | n.   | a military force comprised of trained soldiers who are usually a citizen or have other jobs                                                                |
| 17. me____e a negotiation       | v.   | to try to bring about an agreement or understanding between people who are in conflict                                                                     |
| 18. re____ul words              | adj. | feeling or expressing sadness, disappointment, or remorse about a past action, decision, or situation; characterized by a sense of regret or sorrow        |

ANSWERS: 9. drown, 10. reconstruct, 11. dictator, 12. militia, 13. mediate, 14. courageous, 15. sidestep, 16. militia, 17. mediate, 18. regretful



19. he\_\_\_\_\_nt to take action      *adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
20. to\_\_\_\_\_e communist rule      *v.* to cause to lose balance and fall over, especially by pushing
21. di\_\_\_\_\_y the occasion      *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
22. lack of gen\_\_\_\_\_ty      *n.* a general statement or principle that applies to a large group or category rather than to a specific instance; the quality of being general or universal
23. violent con\_\_\_\_\_ion      *n.* the act of facing or dealing with something directly and openly; a direct and often hostile encounter or disagreement
24. ra\_\_\_\_\_t corruption      *adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
25. citrus gr\_\_\_e      *n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
26. a di\_\_\_\_\_or with enormous powers      *n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
27. li\_\_\_\_\_te potential      *v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
28. ove\_\_\_\_\_ed refugee camp      *adj.* containing too many people or things in a particular space, making it cramped or uncomfortable

ANSWERS: 19. hesitant, 20. topple, 21. dignify, 22. generality, 23. confrontation, 24. rampant, 25. grove, 26. dictator, 27. liberate, 28. overcrowded

29. cor\_\_\_\_\_le judges *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
30. re\_\_\_\_\_ne our role *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
31. he\_\_\_\_\_nt response *adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
32. ov\_\_\_\_\_ow the theory *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
33. cor\_\_\_\_\_le officials *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
34. to\_\_\_\_e off a ledge *v.* to cause to lose balance and fall over, especially by pushing
35. li\_\_\_\_\_te people from oppression *v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
36. un\_\_\_\_d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
37. cou\_\_\_\_\_us rescue attempt *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
38. und\_\_\_\_\_ted worker *adj.* not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
39. in\_\_\_\_\_t the stomach *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
40. un\_\_\_\_d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

ANSWERS: 29. corruptible, 30. redefine, 31. hesitant, 32. overthrow, 33. corruptible, 34. topple, 35. liberate, 36. unfold, 37. courageous, 38. undocumented, 39. inhabit, 40. unfold

- |                                    |      |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 41. in_____t a cave                | v.   | to live in a specific location; to reside                                                                                                                                 |
| 42. exa_____te the situation       | v.   | to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse                                                                                                                            |
| 43. cir_____nt rules               | v.   | to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle                                 |
| 44. verbal con_____ion             | n.   | the act of facing or dealing with something directly and openly; a direct and often hostile encounter or disagreement                                                     |
| 45. 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 |
| 46. rec_____ct an image            | v.   | to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed                                                                                                       |
| 47. ov_____ow the government       | v.   | to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force                                                                                            |
| 48. si_____ep issue                | v.   | to step to one side to avoid something, especially to avoid confrontation or criticism; to evade or bypass something, such as a difficult issue or problem                |
| 49. und_____ted command            | adj. | not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission                                                                                              |
| 50. I was dr__ned in work          | v.   | to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater                                                                                                              |

ANSWERS: 41. inhabit, 42. exacerbate, 43. circumvent, 44. confrontation, 45. migrant, 46. reconstruct, 47. overthrow, 48. sidestep, 49. undocumented, 50. drown

51. re\_\_\_\_ne customer experience      *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
52. di\_\_\_\_y the role      *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
53. environmental det\_\_\_\_nt      *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
54. a det\_\_\_\_nt of crop yields      *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

ANSWERS: 51. redefine, 52. dignify, 53. determinant, 54. determinant

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I took a back road to work on time to \_\_\_\_\_ the traffic jam.  
*v.* to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle
  
2. The border patrol has recently been focusing on cracking down on \_\_\_\_\_ non-citizens.  
*adj.* not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
  
3. It's important to \_\_\_\_\_ other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.  
*v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
  
4. The prisoners were \_\_\_\_\_ after the war ended.  
*v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ suddenly occupied the presidential palace.  
*n.* a military force comprised of trained soldiers who are usually a citizen or have other jobs
  
6. The video telephony application has \_\_\_\_\_ the way we work.  
*v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
  
7. Floods have the potential to \_\_\_\_\_ any subsurface animals easily.  
*v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater

ANSWERS: 1. circumvent, 2. undocumented, 3. dignify, 4. liberated, 5. Militia, 6. redefined, 7. drown

8. The \_\_\_\_\_ between the two nations escalated into a full-blown war.  
*n.* the act of facing or dealing with something directly and openly; a direct and often hostile encounter or disagreement
9. He was a \_\_\_\_\_ soldier who had served his country with honor.  
*adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
10. They walked through the \_\_\_\_\_ of trees and admired the natural beauty.  
*n.* a small group of trees growing closely together
11. The group aims to \_\_\_\_\_ the military regime.  
*v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
12. She was \_\_\_\_\_ to speak in public but eventually overcame her fear.  
*adj.* unsure or uncertain about what to do or how to act; reluctant or unwilling to take action or make a decision
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the study's findings was consistent with previous research.  
*n.* a general statement or principle that applies to a large group or category rather than to a specific instance; the quality of being general or universal
14. The statue was old and unstable, so it easily \_\_\_\_\_ over.  
*v.* to cause to lose balance and fall over, especially by pushing
15. The mystery \_\_\_\_\_ as the detectives gathered more clues.  
*v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
16. They've decided to \_\_\_\_\_ a ruined castle.  
*v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

ANSWERS: 8. confrontation, 9. courageous, 10. grove, 11. overthrow, 12. hesitant, 13. generality, 14. toppled, 15. unfolded, 16. reconstruct

17. In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules tend to be \_\_\_\_\_.

*adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled

18. The teacher had to \_\_\_\_\_ a disagreement between two students over a stolen pencil.

*v.* to try to bring about an agreement or understanding between people who are in conflict

19. The heat wave \_\_\_\_\_ the drought conditions.

*v.* to make a situation, problem, or feeling worse

20. I have no idea what sort of folks \_\_\_\_\_ the neighborhood.

*v.* to live in a specific location; to reside

21. Bureaucracies are more \_\_\_\_\_ than other systems or organizations.

*adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

22. A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force

23. I had to \_\_\_\_\_ his attempt to start an argument and stay focused on the topic.

*v.* to step to one side to avoid something, especially to avoid confrontation or criticism; to evade or bypass something, such as a difficult issue or problem

24. One \_\_\_\_\_ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

ANSWERS: 17. rampant, 18. mediate, 19. exacerbated, 20. inhabit, 21. corruptible, 22. dictator, 23. sidestep, 24. determinant

25. 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

26. The school district is facing a problem with \_\_\_\_\_ classrooms.

*adj.* containing too many people or things in a particular space, making it cramped or uncomfortable

27. I am \_\_\_\_\_ of the way I spoke to my friend yesterday.

*adj.* feeling or expressing sadness, disappointment, or remorse about a past action, decision, or situation; characterized by a sense of regret or sorrow

ANSWERS: 25. migrant, 26. overcrowded, 27. regretful