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# Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Nadya Tolokonnikova: Pussy Riot's powerful message to Vladimir Putin | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/nadya\_tolokonnikova\_pussy\_riot\_s\_powerful\_message\_to\_vladimir\_putin



# Advanced Words Only

#### **IMPORTANT**

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# **Session 1: Word List**

#### handcuff

n. a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process

synonym: shackle, bind, restraint

(1) **handcuff** his wrists, (2) break free from **handcuffs** The police officer put **handcuffs** on the suspect before placing them in the squad car.

# smashing

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

*synonym*: great, wonderful, breaking

(1) a **smashing** blow, (2) give **smashing** results
The band's new album was a **smashing** success, reaching the top of the charts.

### utopian

adj. ideal and perfect; relating to or resembling a utopia (= an ideal and perfect society)

synonym: idealistic, perfectionistic, unrealistic

(1) utopian society, (2) utopian goal

He had a **utopian** vision of a world without war.

#### dictator

riot

 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**.
- a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

synonym: disturbance, unrest, upheaval

(1) riot police, (2) riot control gas

The **riots** in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.

### cathedral

- n. the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the areasynonym: church, basilica, temple
- (1) cathedral school, (2) cathedral choir

The **cathedral's** stained glass windows depicted scenes from the Bible.

#### Christ

 the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym: Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of Christ, (2) before Christ

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

# preach

- v. to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience synonym: expound, advocate, sermonize
- preach the gospel, (2) preach to the masses
   The pastor preached about the importance of forgiveness.

# patriarch

 a man who is the head of a family or tribe or a man who is revered because of his age, wisdom, or spiritual leadership synonym: father, elder, leader

(1) **Patriarch** of Constantinople, (2) **patriarch** of a religion The family **patriarch** was a respected elder who was always consulted on important decisions.

#### orthodox

adj. following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church

synonym: traditional, conventional, established

(1) an **orthodox** doctrine, (2) **orthodox** thought He challenged the **orthodox** views on business.

# indefinitely

 adv. without any fixed or definite limit; for an unknown or unspecified period of time

synonym: endlessly, permanently, perpetually

(1) postpone a meeting **indefinitely**, (2) **indefinitely** suspended

The construction project has been delayed **indefinitely** due to the pandemic.

#### dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

*synonym*: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

# stagnation

the state or condition of not moving or making progress;
 lack of activity or development; a situation where
 economic or social conditions remain stable, but there is
 little growth or improvement

synonym: inactivity, idleness, sluggishness

(1) economic **stagnation**, (2) population **stagnation**The company's lack of innovation has led to **stagnation** and declining profits.

# guerrilla

 a member of small, independent soldiers or fighters who engage in irregular, often surprise attacks against enemy forces

synonym: partisan, rebel, insurgent

(1) an urban guerrilla, (2) guerrilla warfare

The government's efforts to suppress the **guerrilla** movement were met with resistance from local communities.

# disrupt

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

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

# emperor

n. the male ruler of an empire

synonym: ruler, king, dictator

(1) **emperor** of Rome, (2) former **emperor** The **Emperor** once lived in the vast palace.

# prosecute

 to bring legal action against someone in a court of law;
 to pursue or carry out something to completion or achievement

*synonym*: charge, sue, bring to trial

(1) **prosecute** criminal, (2) **prosecute** case

The attorney decided to **prosecute** the suspect for stealing from the store.

#### convict

v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

synonym: condemn, sentence, judge

(1) **convict** him of manslaughter, (2) **convict** in a jail He was **convicted** on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

#### sew

v. to join, fasten, or repair two pieces of something by putting the thread through them with a needle

synonym: stitch, darn, tailor

(1) **sew** with thread, (2) **sew** a button

My mother taught me how to **sew**.

#### unicorn

 a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion

synonym: mythical creature, fantasy animal, legendary horse

(1) unicorn beetle, (2) unicorn investors

In medieval times, people believed that the **unicorn** horn had magical powers that could cure diseases.

# nonbinary

- adj. someone who does not identify as a man or a woman;not relating to, composed of, or including only two thingssynonym: pluralistic, polyphyletic
- (1) **nonbinary** gender, (2) **nonbinary** identities More and more people in various countries believe that the policymaker should change the marriage rules for **nonbinary** people.

# imprison

v. to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement

*synonym*: incarcerate, detain, confine

(1) **imprison** illegal immigrant, (2) **imprison** myself within the room

He was **imprisoned** for embezzlement.

#### shatter

- v. to break suddenly into many pieces synonym: break, crash, destroy
- (1) **shatter** the plate, (2) **shatter** a world record Her husband's death **shattered** her life entirely.

#### contagious

- adj. able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or diseasesynonym: infectious, transmissible, communicable
- (1) contagious enthusiasm, (2) contagious virus

The disease is highly **contagious** and spreads quickly.

### incalculable

- adj. impossible to calculate or determine accurately; too great or numerous to be measured or countedsynonym: immeasurable, incomputable, infinite
- (1) **incalculable** damage, (2) **incalculable** consequences The **incalculable** amount of stars in the universe is mind-boggling.

#### 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.

#### intimidate

v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

synonym: frighten, threaten, terrify

(1) **intimidate** an opponent, (2) effectively **intimidate** a thief The boss tried to **intimidate** his subordinate with threats.

#### comrade

 a close associate, friend, or companion, especially one who shares one's interests, beliefs, or political convictions; a fellow member of an organization, especially a military or political group, who shares a common cause or objective

synonym: ally, friend, mate

(1) **comrade** in arms, (2) trusted **comrade**We worked together as **comrades** to finish the project on time.

#### condemn

- v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something synonym: criticize, denounce, censure
- condemn violence, (2) condemn crime
   The government was condemned for its handling of the

crisis.

# engulf

- v. to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
- synonym: swallow, submerge, inundate
- (1) engulf the politician, (2) engulf in water

The fire quickly **engulfed** the entire building.

# dissipate

- v. to disperse or scatter widely
- synonym: scatter, disperse, evaporate
- (1) dissipate heat, (2) dissipate stress

The fog **dissipated**, and the air cleared up.

### frost

 a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing

synonym: freeze, ice, blight

(1) five degrees of **frost**, (2) **frost** line

The **frost** on the ground made it slippery and difficult to walk.

# hypocrisy

n. the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform

synonym: insincerity, dissembling, duplicity

(1) without **hypocrisy**, (2) self-serving **hypocrisy** 

The commentaries often criticized the government's political **hypocrisy**.

# cunning

adj. clever or skillful in achieving a goal, especially deceptively or secretly; shrewd or wily

synonym: sly, crafty, tricky

(1) **cunning** plan, (2) **cunning** thief

The **cunning** fox managed to elude the hunters and escape with his prey.

#### contrived

adj. created or arranged in an artificial, forced, or deliberate way; not natural or spontaneous

synonym: artificial, forced, fabricated

(1) **contrived** situation, (2) **contrived** laughter
The storyline of the movie seemed **contrived** and needed more authenticity.

# decency

 behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards

*synonym*: morality, propriety, decorum

(1) an offense against **decency**, (2) **decency** standards He always tried to act with **decency**, treating others with respect and kindness.

#### conceal

v. to prevent something from being seen, found, observed, or discovered

synonym: hide, keep secret, camouflage

(1) **conceal** my identity, (2) **conceal** a close relationship Despite the intense verbal abuse, she **concealed** her anger well.

# **Session 2: Spelling**

1. co\_\_\_t in a jail

2. without hy\_\_\_\_sy

3. population sta\_\_\_\_on

4. de\_\_\_y standards

5. cou us rescue attempt

6. an offense against de\_\_\_\_y

7. an or ox doctrine

- v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
- n. the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform
- n. the state or condition of not moving or making progress; lack of activity or development; a situation where economic or social conditions remain stable, but there is little growth or improvement
- behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards
- adj. able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
- n. behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards
- adj. following or conforming to the traditional, normal, or commonly accepted beliefs, ideas, or activities; of or relating to Judaism; of or relating to the Eastern Orthodox Church

ANSWERS: 1. convict, 2. hypocrisy, 3. stagnation, 4. decency, 5. courageous, 6. decency, 7. orthodox

ANSWERS: 8. cunning, 9. frost, 10. indefinitely, 11. Christ, 12. nonbinary, 13. unicorn, 14. smashing, 15. emperor, 16. contrived, 17. patriarch

n.

n.

15. em\_\_\_r of Rome

16. co ed situation

17. Pa ch of Constantinople

something to be broken or destroyed

forced, or deliberate way; not natural or

a man who is the head of a family or

tribe or a man who is revered because

the male ruler of an empire

spontaneous

leadership

adj. created or arranged in an artificial,

of his age, wisdom, or spiritual

ANSWERS: 18. stagnation, 19. engulf, 20. orthodox, 21. prosecute, 22. utopian, 23. condemn, 24. guerrilla, 25. handcuff

ANSWERS: 26. contagious, 27. riot, 28. nonbinary, 29. dissipate, 30. imprison, 31. sew, 32. Christ, 33. sew, 34. unicorn

Voca	ab-Builder Ref from "Nadya Tolokonnikova: Pussy Riot	s pow	rerful message to Vladimir Putin   TED Talk" (37 words)
35.	prh the gospel	ν.	to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience
36.	frt line	n.	a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing
37.	trusted coe	n.	a close associate, friend, or companion, especially one who shares one's interests, beliefs, or political convictions a fellow member of an organization, especially a military or political group, who shares a common cause or objective
38.	coe in arms	n.	a close associate, friend, or companion, especially one who shares one's interests, beliefs, or political convictions a fellow member of an organization, especially a military or political group, who shares a common cause or objective
39.	caal choir	n.	the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
40.	former emr	n.	the male ruler of an empire
41.	make a couus decision	adj.	able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
42.	shr a world record	<i>v</i> .	to break suddenly into many pieces
43.	dit a well-ordered condition	ν.	to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

ANSWERS: 35. preach, 36. frost, 37. comrade, 38. comrade, 39. cathedral, 40. emperor, 41. courageous, 42. shatter, 43. disrupt

ANSWERS: 44. condemn, 45. smashing, 46. imprison, 47. shatter, 48. disrupt, 49. contrived, 50. incalculable, 51. dictator, 52. guerrilla, 53. handcuff

ANSWERS: 54. intimidate, 55. contagious, 56. riot, 57. intimidate, 58. dedicate, 59. conceal, 60. incalculable, 61. patriarch, 62. dedicate

purpose or use

ANSWERS: 63. conceal, 64. utopian, 65. indefinitely, 66. prosecute, 67. cathedral, 68. engulf, 69. preach, 70. convict, 71. dissipate, 72. dictator, 73. cunning

especially deceptively or secretly;

shrewd or wily

74. self-serving hy\_\_\_\_sy

n. the practice of engaging in the same behavior or activity for which one criticizes another or the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's behavior does not conform

ANSWERS: 74. hypocrisy

# **Session 3: Fill in the Blanks**

1.	Despite the intense verbal abuse, she her anger well.
<i>v</i> .	to prevent something from being seen, found, observed, or discovered
2.	The amount of stars in the universe is mind-boggling.
adj	impossible to calculate or determine accurately; too great or numerous to be measured or counted
3.	He was a soldier who had served his country with honor.
adj	able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
4.	The company's lack of innovation has led to and declining profits.
n.	the state or condition of not moving or making progress; lack of activity or development; a situation where economic or social conditions remain stable, but there is little growth or improvement
5.	Her husband's death her life entirely.
ν.	to break suddenly into many pieces
6.	The fox managed to elude the hunters and escape with his prey.
adj	clever or skillful in achieving a goal, especially deceptively or secretly; shrewd or wily
7.	The government was for its handling of the crisis.
ν.	to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
8.	In medieval times, people believed that the horn had magical powers that could cure diseases.
n.	a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion
	SWERS: 1. concealed, 2. incalculable, 3. courageous, 4. stagnation, 5. shattered cunning, 7. condemned, 8. unicorn

ANSWERS: 9. hypocrisy, 10. cathedral's, 11. intimidate, 12. orthodox, 13. sew, 14. preached, 15. disrupt, 16. patriarch

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