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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Armand D'Angour: The ancient origins of the Olympics | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/armand\\_d\\_angour\\_the\\_ancient\\_origins\\_of\\_the\\_olympics](https://www.ted.com/talks/armand_d_angour_the_ancient_origins_of_the_olympics)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### olympiad

*n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years

(1) the modern **olympiad**, (2) summer **olympiad**

She won a gold medal in the physics **olympiad** and was praised by her teachers and peers.

### mythical

*adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination

*synonym*: mythological, fictitious, legendary

(1) **mythical** heroes, (2) **mythical** world

Many cultures have their **mythical** creatures and legends.

### chariot

*n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing

(1) **chariot** builder, (2) **chariot** race

The ancient Romans enjoyed spectating **chariot** races.

### mule

*n.* a domesticated animal used for riding, carrying loads, and farm work, characterized by its long ears, short mane, and sturdy build

*synonym*: donkey, burro, hinny

(1) load the **mule**, (2) **mule** caravans

The stubborn **mule** refused to move until it was rewarded with a carrot.

## entice

*v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting

*synonym*: lure, tempt, attract

(1) **entice** foreign investment, (2) **entice** shoppers

The salesperson tried to **entice** the customer into buying a new car.

## javelin

*n.* a long, pointed spear used in athletics competitions as a throwing weapon, originating from ancient Greek warfare

*synonym*: spear, lance, pilum

(1) lightweight **javelin**, (2) **javelin** competition

He threw the **javelin** with incredible force and accuracy, setting a new record.

## hurl

*v.* to throw something with great force

*synonym*: throw, fling, launch

(1) **hurl** a brickbat, (2) **hurl** a cup out of the window

She angrily **hurled** the book across the room.

## discus

*n.* a heavy, flat round object that is thrown in athletic competitions, consisting of a central hub with a raised rim and a metal or wooden plate attached to the edge, which is thrown by spinning rapidly and releasing it from the hand

*synonym*: disc, saucer, plate

(1) Olympic **discus**, (2) **discus** event

The athlete's personal best in the **discus** throw earned her a spot on the national team.

## pentathlon

*n.* a sports contest consisting of five different events, typically running, jumping, and throwing, as well as fencing and swimming

*synonym* : contest, competition, event

(1) modern **pentathlon**, (2) Olympic **pentathlon**

The winner of the **pentathlon** had excellent results in all five disciplines.

## **pankration**

*n.* an ancient Greek athletic event combining boxing and wrestling, with few rules and widely considered one of the most brutal sports of its time

*synonym* : combat sport, grappling, martial art

(1) ancient **pankration**, (2) compete in the **pankration** tournament

Many athletes in ancient Greece were skilled in **pankration** and other combat sports.

## **gouge**

*v.* to use a sharp tool to dig out or cut into a surface, often resulting in a deep, narrow groove or hole; to overcharge or unfairly extract money from someone

*synonym* : carve, chisel, cut

(1) **gouge** out his eyes, (2) **gouge** a deep crater

She used a chisel to **gouge** at the wood block, creating intricate carvings.

## **victorious**

*adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.

*synonym* : triumphant, winning

(1) the **victorious** entry, (2) the **victorious** army

The **victorious** troops marched back to their homeland.

## **victor**

*n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.

*synonym* : winner, conqueror, champion

(1) **victor** country, (2) the outright **victor**

The **victor** of the race was the favorite to win.

## **loincloth**

*n.* a piece of cloth worn around the hips and covering the genitals, often worn as a basic garment or for ceremonial or athletic purposes

*synonym* : cloth, breechcloth, fundoshi

(1) traditional **loincloth**, (2) wear a **loincloth**

Tribal dancers in Rajasthan wear colorful **loincloths** during their performances.

## impede

*v.* to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress

*synonym*: hinder, obstruct, block

(1) **impede** a close relationship, (2) **impede** development

The traffic jam **impeded** our progress to reach the destination on time.

## inaugurate

*v.* to formally begin or initiate something, particularly a new project, organization, government, or system, often through an official ceremony

*synonym*: initiate, launch, commence

(1) **inaugurate** an enterprise, (2) **inaugurate** a new policy

The president will **inaugurate** the new embassy building next week.

## Christ

*n.* 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.

## 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.

## pagan

*n.* a person who holds religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions, such as Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism; (adjective) not following the main monotheistic religions

*synonym*: atheist, polytheist, agnostic

(1) **pagan** sites, (2) **pagan** belief

The temple was built by ancient **pagans** who worshiped multiple gods.

## **farewell**

*n.* the act of departing politely; an expression of a wish or well-being at parting

*synonym*: goodbye, send-off

(1) a **farewell** address, (2) bid **farewell** to the departed

There is his **farewell** party tomorrow.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. ina\_\_\_\_\_te a new policy  
*v.* to formally begin or initiate something, particularly a new project, organization, government, or system, often through an official ceremony
2. ch\_\_\_\_\_t builder  
*n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
3. vi\_\_\_\_r country  
*n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.
4. wear a lo\_\_\_\_\_th  
*n.* a piece of cloth worn around the hips and covering the genitals, often worn as a basic garment or for ceremonial or athletic purposes
5. my\_\_\_\_\_al heroes  
*adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination
6. compete in the pan\_\_\_\_\_on tournament  
*n.* an ancient Greek athletic event combining boxing and wrestling, with few rules and widely considered one of the most brutal sports of its time
7. go\_\_e out his eyes  
*v.* to use a sharp tool to dig out or cut into a surface, often resulting in a deep, narrow groove or hole; to overcharge or unfairly extract money from someone
8. lightweight ja\_\_\_\_\_n  
*n.* a long, pointed spear used in athletics competitions as a throwing weapon, originating from ancient Greek warfare

ANSWERS: 1. inaugurate, 2. chariot, 3. victor, 4. loincloth, 5. mythical, 6. pankration, 7. gouge, 8. javelin

9. m\_\_e caravans *n.* a domesticated animal used for riding, carrying loads, and farm work, characterized by its long ears, short mane, and sturdy build
10. pa\_\_n sites *n.* a person who holds religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions, such as Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism; (adjective) not following the main monotheistic religions
11. im\_\_\_e development *v.* to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
12. summer ol\_\_\_\_ad *n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years
13. en\_\_\_e shoppers *v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting
14. before Ch\_\_\_t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
15. my\_\_\_\_al world *adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination
16. ja\_\_\_\_n competition *n.* a long, pointed spear used in athletics competitions as a throwing weapon, originating from ancient Greek warfare

ANSWERS: 9. mule, 10. pagan, 11. impede, 12. olympiad, 13. entice, 14. Christ, 15. mythical, 16. javelin

17. former em\_\_\_\_r *n.* the male ruler of an empire
18. bid fa\_\_\_\_ll to the departed *n.* the act of departing politely; an expression of a wish or well-being at parting
19. modern pen\_\_\_\_on *n.* a sports contest consisting of five different events, typically running, jumping, and throwing, as well as fencing and swimming
20. h\_\_l a cup out of the window *v.* to throw something with great force
21. the modern ol\_\_\_\_ad *n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years
22. load the m\_\_e *n.* a domesticated animal used for riding, carrying loads, and farm work, characterized by its long ears, short mane, and sturdy build
23. im\_\_\_\_e a close relationship *v.* to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
24. pa\_\_n belief *n.* a person who holds religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions, such as Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism; (adjective) not following the main monotheistic religions
25. the vic\_\_\_\_us entry *adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.

ANSWERS: 17. emperor, 18. farewell, 19. pentathlon, 20. hurl, 21. olympiad, 22. mule, 23. impede, 24. pagan, 25. victorious



26. the vic\_\_\_\_\_us army *adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.
27. traditional lo\_\_\_\_\_th *n.* a piece of cloth worn around the hips and covering the genitals, often worn as a basic garment or for ceremonial or athletic purposes
28. Olympic pen\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* a sports contest consisting of five different events, typically running, jumping, and throwing, as well as fencing and swimming
29. ina\_\_\_\_\_te an enterprise *v.* to formally begin or initiate something, particularly a new project, organization, government, or system, often through an official ceremony
30. teaching of Ch\_\_\_\_t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
31. em\_\_\_\_\_r of Rome *n.* the male ruler of an empire
32. di\_\_\_\_s event *n.* a heavy, flat round object that is thrown in athletic competitions, consisting of a central hub with a raised rim and a metal or wooden plate attached to the edge, which is thrown by spinning rapidly and releasing it from the hand
33. en\_\_\_\_e foreign investment *v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting
34. ch\_\_\_\_\_t race *n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing

ANSWERS: 26. victorious, 27. loincloth, 28. pentathlon, 29. inaugurate, 30. Christ, 31. emperor, 32. discus, 33. entice, 34. chariot

35. a fa\_\_\_\_\_ll address
36. ancient pan\_\_\_\_\_on
37. the outright vi\_\_\_\_r
38. Olympic di\_\_\_\_s
39. h\_\_l a brickbat
40. go\_\_e a deep crater
- n.* the act of departing politely; an expression of a wish or well-being at parting
- n.* an ancient Greek athletic event combining boxing and wrestling, with few rules and widely considered one of the most brutal sports of its time
- n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.
- n.* a heavy, flat round object that is thrown in athletic competitions, consisting of a central hub with a raised rim and a metal or wooden plate attached to the edge, which is thrown by spinning rapidly and releasing it from the hand
- v.* to throw something with great force
- v.* to use a sharp tool to dig out or cut into a surface, often resulting in a deep, narrow groove or hole; to overcharge or unfairly extract money from someone

ANSWERS: 35. farewell, 36. pankration, 37. victor, 38. discus, 39. hurl, 40. gouge

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. There is his \_\_\_\_\_ party tomorrow.  
*n.* the act of departing politely; an expression of a wish or well-being at parting
2. The salesperson tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the customer into buying a new car.  
*v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting
3. The traffic jam \_\_\_\_\_ our progress to reach the destination on time.  
*v.* to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
4. She angrily \_\_\_\_\_ the book across the room.  
*v.* to throw something with great force
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ troops marched back to their homeland.  
*adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.
6. The ancient Romans enjoyed spectating \_\_\_\_\_ races.  
*n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ once lived in the vast palace.  
*n.* the male ruler of an empire
8. \_\_\_\_\_ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.  
*n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
9. She used a chisel to \_\_\_\_\_ at the wood block, creating intricate carvings.  
*v.* to use a sharp tool to dig out or cut into a surface, often resulting in a deep, narrow groove or hole; to overcharge or unfairly extract money from someone

ANSWERS: 1. farewell, 2. entice, 3. impeded, 4. hurled, 5. victorious, 6. chariot, 7. Emperor, 8. Christmas, 9. gouge

10. Tribal dancers in Rajasthan wear colorful \_\_\_\_\_ during their performances.
- n.* a piece of cloth worn around the hips and covering the genitals, often worn as a basic garment or for ceremonial or athletic purposes
11. The president will \_\_\_\_\_ the new embassy building next week.
- v.* to formally begin or initiate something, particularly a new project, organization, government, or system, often through an official ceremony
12. Many athletes in ancient Greece were skilled in \_\_\_\_\_ and other combat sports.
- n.* an ancient Greek athletic event combining boxing and wrestling, with few rules and widely considered one of the most brutal sports of its time
13. The athlete's personal best in the \_\_\_\_\_ throw earned her a spot on the national team.
- n.* a heavy, flat round object that is thrown in athletic competitions, consisting of a central hub with a raised rim and a metal or wooden plate attached to the edge, which is thrown by spinning rapidly and releasing it from the hand
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the race was the favorite to win.
- n.* one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.
15. The temple was built by ancient \_\_\_\_\_ who worshiped multiple gods.
- n.* a person who holds religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions, such as Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism; (adjective) not following the main monotheistic religions
16. She won a gold medal in the physics \_\_\_\_\_ and was praised by her teachers and peers.
- n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years

ANSWERS: 10. loincloths, 11. inaugurate, 12. pankration, 13. discus, 14. victor, 15. pagans, 16. olympiad

17. He threw the \_\_\_\_\_ with incredible force and accuracy, setting a new record.

*n.* a long, pointed spear used in athletics competitions as a throwing weapon, originating from ancient Greek warfare

18. The stubborn \_\_\_\_\_ refused to move until it was rewarded with a carrot.

*n.* a domesticated animal used for riding, carrying loads, and farm work, characterized by its long ears, short mane, and sturdy build

19. The winner of the \_\_\_\_\_ had excellent results in all five disciplines.

*n.* a sports contest consisting of five different events, typically running, jumping, and throwing, as well as fencing and swimming

20. Many cultures have their \_\_\_\_\_ creatures and legends.

*adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination

ANSWERS: 17. javelin, 18. mule, 19. pentathlon, 20. mythical