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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Elaine Fong: My mother's final wish -- and the right to die with dignity | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/elaine_fong_my_mother_s _final_wish_and_the_right_to_die_with_dignity



Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

empathy

 the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of empathy, (2) empathy for patientsEmpathy is also necessary to understand history.

remission

 a period of time when a disease or condition is no longer present or active; a lessening or reduction of symptoms or intensity; forgiveness or pardon for sins or debts

synonym: forgiveness, amnesty, absolution

(1) complete **remission**, (2) clinical **remission**The cancer patient was delighted to hear that their disease was in **remission**.

vertebra

- a bone in the spine, or the spinal column forming the supporting structure of the spine and protecting the spinal cord
- (1) cervical **vertebra**, (2) **vertebra** injury

 He uses a **vertebra** traction machine for his treatment.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per

minute

synonym: revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- rev engine, (2) rev up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

fearless

adj. having no fear; brave

synonym: brave, courageous, daring

(1) fearless attitude, (2) fearless bravery

The **fearless** firefighter rushed into the burning building to save a trapped child.

pierce

- v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument synonym: jab, penetrate, stab
- (1) **pierce** the armored shells, (2) **pierce** a mystery The extreme cold **pierced** our bones.

brace

 a device, typically one of a pair, for holding something in position or for strengthening an object; (verb) to support or hold steady and make steadfast

synonym: support, clamp, (verb) strengthen

(1) brace for impact, (2) brace my energies

She wore a **brace** on her leg to support her injured ankle.

adamant

- adj. having a very strong determination to do something and refusing to be influenced or persuaded; (noun) a legendary rock that is very hard and impossible to crush synonym: resolute, unyielding, obstinate
- (1) **adamant** refusal, (2) **adamant** to temptation She was **adamant** about not changing her mind.

empower

- v. to give someone the power or authority to do something synonym: authorize, endow, entitle
- (1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items

Page 2 / 24

without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

devastate

- v. to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage synonym: demolish, destroy, crush
- (1) **devastate** an area, (2) **devastate** the economy Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which **devastate** coastal areas.

scatter

- v. to cause to separate and go in different directionssynonym: disperse, spread, bestrew
- (1) **scatter** seeds, (2) **scatter** around the internet The hunter's approach **scattered** the geese.

afterward

adv. after the time mentionedsynonym: later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

hospice

- n. a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support
- synonym: palliative care, nursing home, care center
- (1) **hospice** care, (2) home **hospice**The **hospice** team includes nurses, social workers, chaplains, and volunteers who work together to provide comprehensive care.

oncology

- n. the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignanciessynonym: cancer treatment, study of tumors
- (1) **oncology** center, (2) modern **oncology** treatment The pharmaceutical company unveiled its latest breakthrough drug for the **oncology** market.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality Her remarks **confused** the debate.

palliate

v. to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause

synonym: extenuate, soothe, relieve

(1) **palliate** symptoms, (2) attempts to **palliate**The charity provided meals and shelter to **palliate** the suffering of the homeless population.

testament

a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

synonym: proof, testimony, testimonial

(1) give properties by **testament**, (2) **testament** to the superior quality

His wealth is a **testament** to his success.

pragmatic

adj. practical rather than idealistic

synonym: practical, realistic, down-to-earth

(1) pragmatic approach, (2) pragmatic politics

He was a **pragmatic** leader who made decisions based on what was practical rather than ideal.

frail

adj. weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength

synonym: weak, delicate, fragile

(1) frail body, (2) frail condition

My grandfather's health has declined, and he is now quite frail.

sneak

 to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily synonym: creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger

The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

deluge

 a severe flood; an overwhelming number or amount of something

synonym: flood, downpour, surge

(1) get caught in the **deluge**, (2) a **deluge** of fire Recent developments in data analysis techniques have been instrumental in finding insights from the data **deluge**.

sponge

- a soft material with many microscopic pores that can absorb a large amount of liquid and is used for washing and cleaning
- (1) sea **sponge**, (2) metallic **sponge**The tiny marine **sponge** has existed for more than 500 million years.

plead

ν. to make a serious and urgent request or appeal, especially for help or mercy

synonym: beg, implore, supplicate

(1) **plead** for mercy, (2) **plead** a political cause He **pleaded** with the authorities to release his son, who had been wrongly accused.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym: sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

caress

v. to touch or stroke gently and affectionately; to express love or tenderness with physical contact

synonym: stroke, fondle, pet

(1) caress her hair, (2) caress his cheek

Page 5 / 24

The mother gently **caressed** her child's forehead to soothe their fever.

perk

 an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job

synonym: extra, bonus, benefit

(1) **perks** for repeat guests, (2) worker **perk**

A yacht cruise is our company's ultimate **perk**.

stern

adj. serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude synonym: severe, harsh, strict

(1) **stern** warning, (2) a **stern** look

The students' antics did not amuse the **stern** teacher.

rib

 each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule

synonym: costa

(1) brake a rib, (2) rib cage

The accident caused a cracked rib.

reflex

 an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli

synonym: reaction, response, instinct

(1) reflex test, (2) knee reflex

My leg kicked involuntarily when the doctor tapped my knee with the **reflex** hammer.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of diseasesynonym: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) medicinal chemistry, (2) traditional medicinal

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

revisit

v. to go to a place again, especially after a long period synonym: reexplore, review, reexamine

Page 6 / 24

(1) **revisit** a place, (2) **revisit** an old friend We need to **revisit** this proposal as soon as the budget is more apparent than before.

roast

v. to cook food by surrounding it with hot, dry air, especially in an oven

synonym: bake, broil, grill

(1) roast coffee beans, (2) roast beef

The chef **roasted** the chicken to perfection in the oven.

strawberry

- a sweet, juicy fruit with a reddish color, a seeded surface, and a green, leafy top
- (1) the **strawberry** pie, (2) **strawberry** greenhouse He had a **strawberry** smoothie for breakfast.

sparkle

v. to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy

synonym: shine, glimmer, twinkle

(1) **sparkle** like a gem, (2) **sparkle** from receiving light The diamond **sparkled** in the sunlight.

dusty

adj. covered with or characterized by dust; having a dry, powdery texture or appearance; having a lot of dust or dirt in the air

synonym: stale, filthy, grimy

(1) dusty road, (2) dusty bookshelf

The abandoned warehouse was covered in a thick layer of **dusty** debris.

glowing

adj. highly enthusiastic; greatly praised

synonym: burning, bright, flaming

(1) glowing reviews, (2) glowing cheeks

The western sky was **glowing** pink.

whiskey

 a type of distilled alcoholic beverage made from fermented grains, typically barley, corn, rye, or wheat, aged in barrels and often consumed straight or with

mixers

synonym: bourbon, scotch, rye

(1) bootleg whiskey, (2) whiskey barrel

I enjoy a glass of **whiskey** on the rocks after a long day.

deteriorate

- v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate synonym: decline, degenerate, regress
- (1) **deteriorate** at a slow pace, (2) **deteriorate** condition The patient's health **deteriorated** rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.

reframe

 to reinterpret, rephrase, or redefine an issue, situation, or question in a different way

synonym: redefine, restructure, reposition

(1) **reframe** resource allocation, (2) **reframe** problem The therapist tried to **reframe** his negative thoughts.

rebrand

v. to change the branding or image of a product, service, or organization to attract a new target market or improve recognition and profitability

synonym: reintroduce, relaunch, reintegrate

(1) rebrand product, (2) rebrand company

The clothing brand decided to **rebrand** its image to attract a younger audience.

desolate

adj. deserted, barren, or lonely; causing a feeling of sadness or hopelessness

synonym: barren, stark, uninhabited

(1) a desolate scene, (2) desolate moon

The deserted island was **desolate** and uninhabited.

bleak

 adj. unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope

synonym: miserable, pathetic, dim

(1) prospects were **bleak**, (2) **bleak** future

The political landscape looks bleak without a change of

Page 8 / 24

| Vocab-Builder Ref from | "Elaine Fong: My mother's final | wish and the right | to die with dignity | TED Talk" | (42 words) |
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Session 2: Spelling

1. re___t an old friend

2. traditional me____al

3. sc___r around the internet

4. pi___e a mystery

5. bl__k future

6. a st__n look

cervical ve____ra

8. de____te the economy

9. pl__d for mercy

10. em____r my life

11. pa____te symptoms

v. to go to a place again, especially after a long period

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

v. to cause to separate and go in different directions

v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument

adj. unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope

adj. serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude

 a bone in the spine, or the spinal column forming the supporting structure of the spine and protecting the spinal cord

v. to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage

v. to make a serious and urgent request or appeal, especially for help or mercy

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

v. to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause

ANSWERS: 1. revisit, 2. medicinal, 3. scatter, 4. pierce, 5. bleak, 6. stern, 7. vertebra, 8. devastate, 9. plead, 10. empower, 11. palliate

| 12. | fess attitude | adj. | having no fear; brave |
|-----|-----------------------|------------|--|
| 13. | pric approach | adj. | practical rather than idealistic |
| 14. | a few years afrd | adv. | after the time mentioned |
| 15. | bre for impact | n. | a device, typically one of a pair, for holding something in position or for strengthening an object; (verb) to support or hold steady and make steadfast |
| 16. | metallic spe | n. | a soft material with many microscopic pores that can absorb a large amount of liquid and is used for washing and cleaning |
| 17. | brake a r_b | n. | each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule |
| 18. | modern ongy treatment | n. | the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies |
| 19. | bre my energies | n. | a device, typically one of a pair, for holding something in position or for strengthening an object; (verb) to support or hold steady and make steadfast |
| 20. | rex test | n. | an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli |
| 21. | red company | <i>v</i> . | to change the branding or image of a product, service, or organization to attract a new target market or improve recognition and profitability |

ANSWERS: 12. fearless, 13. pragmatic, 14. afterward, 15. brace, 16. sponge, 17. rib, 18. oncology, 19. brace, 20. reflex, 21. rebrand

- 22. ro__t beef
- 23. ca__s his cheek
- 24. det____te condition
- 25. gl___g cheeks
- 26. ve____ra injury
- 27. de____te moon
- 28. knee re___x
- 29. p_ks for repeat guests
- 30. full of em___y
- 31. gl____g reviews
- 32. co___e fantasy with reality
- 33. sp e from receiving light

- v. to cook food by surrounding it with hot, dry air, especially in an oven
- v. to touch or stroke gently and affectionately; to express love or tenderness with physical contact
- v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
- adj. highly enthusiastic; greatly praised
- a bone in the spine, or the spinal column forming the supporting structure of the spine and protecting the spinal cord
- adj. deserted, barren, or lonely; causing a feeling of sadness or hopelessness
- an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli
- an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job
- the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
- adj. highly enthusiastic; greatly praised
- v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
- v. to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy

ANSWERS: 22. roast, 23. caress, 24. deteriorate, 25. glowing, 26. vertebra, 27. desolate, 28. reflex, 29. perk, 30. empathy, 31. glowing, 32. confuse, 33. sparkle

ANSWERS: 34. rebrand, 35. dusty, 36. revisit, 37. pragmatic, 38. reframe, 39. strawberry, 40. rev, 41. hospice, 42. remission

or debts

| 43. | why barrel | n. | a type of distilled alcoholic beverage made from fermented grains, typically barley, corn, rye, or wheat, aged in barrels and often consumed straight or with mixers |
|-----|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| 44. | emr the secretary to do the same | <i>v</i> . | to give someone the power or authority to do something |
| 45. | meal chemistry | adj. | of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease |
| 46. | emy for patients | n. | the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation |
| 47. | go there afrd | adv. | after the time mentioned |
| 48. | pld a political cause | <i>v</i> . | to make a serious and urgent request or appeal, especially for help or mercy |
| 49. | snk out of danger | <i>v</i> . | to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily |
| 50. | bootleg why | n. | a type of distilled alcoholic beverage made from fermented grains, typically barley, corn, rye, or wheat, aged in barrels and often consumed straight or with mixers |
| 51. | attempts to pate | v. | to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause |

ANSWERS: 43. whiskey, 44. empower, 45. medicinal, 46. empathy, 47. afterward, 48. plead, 49. sneak, 50. whiskey, 51. palliate

adj. weak, delicate, and easily broken or 52. fr I body worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength adj. weak, delicate, and easily broken or 53. fr I condition worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength 54. st n warning adj. serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude a specialized care facility or service for 55. home ho e terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support 56. det____te at a slow pace to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate a soft material with many microscopic 57. sea sp___e n. pores that can absorb a large amount of liquid and is used for washing and cleaning 58. dis____nt the audience to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad 59. te____nt to the superior quality a thing that proves the existence or n. truth of something else 60. ro t coffee beans to cook food by surrounding it with hot, ν. dry air, especially in an oven a measure of the rate at which an 61. low-r v engine n. engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 52. frail, 53. frail, 54. stern, 55. hospice, 56. deteriorate, 57. sponge, 58. disappoint, 59. testament, 60. roast, 61. rev

- 62. a de___e of fire
- 63. prospects were bl__k
- 64. give properties by te____nt
- 65. ad____t refusal
- 66. sp___e like a gem
- 67. du__y road
- 68. worker p__k
- 69. don't dis____nt me
- 70. re____e problem
- 71. pi__e the armored shells
- 72. get caught in the de___e

- *n.* a severe flood; an overwhelming number or amount of something
- adj. unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope
- *n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
- adj. having a very strong determination to do something and refusing to be influenced or persuaded; (noun) a legendary rock that is very hard and impossible to crush
- v. to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy
- adj. covered with or characterized by dust;
 having a dry, powdery texture or
 appearance; having a lot of dust or dirt
 in the air
- an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job
- to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
- v. to reinterpret, rephrase, or redefine an issue, situation, or question in a different way
- v. to cut or make a way through with a sharp instrument
- a severe flood; an overwhelming number or amount of something

ANSWERS: 62. deluge, 63. bleak, 64. testament, 65. adamant, 66. sparkle, 67. dusty, 68. perk, 69. disappoint, 70. reframe, 71. pierce, 72. deluge

| 73. | cas her hair | ν. | to touch or stroke gently and affectionately; to express love or tenderness with physical contact |
|-----|-------------------|------------|---|
| 74. | dete an area | <i>v</i> . | to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage |
| 75. | coe the listener | <i>v</i> . | to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand |
| 76. | a dete scene | adj. | deserted, barren, or lonely; causing a feeling of sadness or hopelessness |
| 77. | ongy center | n. | the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies |
| 78. | strry greenhouse | n. | a sweet, juicy fruit with a reddish color, a seeded surface, and a green, leafy top |
| 79. | adt to temptation | adj. | having a very strong determination to do something and refusing to be influenced or persuaded; (noun) a legendary rock that is very hard and impossible to crush |
| 80. | fess bravery | adj. | having no fear; brave |
| 81. | scr seeds | <i>v</i> . | to cause to separate and go in different directions |
| 82. | complete reon | n. | a period of time when a disease or condition is no longer present or active; a lessening or reduction of symptoms or intensity; forgiveness or pardon for sins or debts |
| 83. | snk a cigarette | <i>v</i> . | to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily |
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ANSWERS: 73. caress, 74. devastate, 75. confuse, 76. desolate, 77. oncology, 78. strawberry, 79. adamant, 80. fearless, 81. scatter, 82. remission, 83. sneak

84. r_b cage

 n. each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule

ANSWERS: 84. rib

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

| 1. Her remarks the debate. | |
|--|------------|
| v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understar | nd |
| 2. The students' antics did not amuse the teacher. | |
| adj. serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude | |
| 3. The chef the chicken to perfection in the oven. | |
| v. to cook food by surrounding it with hot, dry air, especially in an oven | |
| 4. The clothing brand decided to its image to attract a younger at | ıdience. |
| v. to change the branding or image of a product, service, or organization a new target market or improve recognition and profitability | to attract |
| The pharmaceutical company unveiled its latest breakthrough drug for the market. | he |
| n. the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumo especially malignancies | ors, |
| 6. The western sky was pink. | |
| adj. highly enthusiastic; greatly praised | |
| 7. Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which coastal areas | |
| v. to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage | |
| We need to this proposal as soon as the budget is more appar before. | ent than |
| ν. to go to a place again, especially after a long period | |
| ANSWERS: 1. confused, 2. stern, 3. roasted, 4. rebrand, 5. oncology, 6. glo devastate, 8. revisit | wing, 7. |

| 9. | Recent developments in data analysis techniques have been instrumental in finding insights from the data |
|------------|---|
| n. | a severe flood; an overwhelming number or amount of something |
| 10. | is also necessary to understand history. |
| n. | the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation |
| 11. | The charity provided meals and shelter to the suffering of the homeless population. |
| <i>v</i> . | to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause |
| 12. | The diamond in the sunlight. |
| v. | to emit or reflect bright flashes of light, especially with animation and joy |
| | The deserted island was and uninhabited. deserted, barren, or lonely; causing a feeling of sadness or hopelessness |
| 14. | The properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments. |
| adj | of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease |
| 15. | The cancer patient was delighted to hear that their disease was in |
| n. | a period of time when a disease or condition is no longer present or active; a lessening or reduction of symptoms or intensity; forgiveness or pardon for sins or debts |
| 16. | The children tried to out and eat the candy. |
| ν. | to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily |
| | SWERS: 9. deluge, 10. Empathy, 11. palliate, 12. sparkled, 13. desolate, 14. dicinal, 15. remission, 16. sneak |

| 39. His wealth is a to his success. |
|---|
| n. a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else |
| 40. A yacht cruise is our company's ultimate |
| an advantage or something extra, such as money or goods, you receive as well as your wages for doing a particular job |
| 41. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem adv. after the time mentioned |
| 42. The firefighter rushed into the burning building to save a trapped child adj. having no fear; brave |
| |

ANSWERS: 39. testament, 40. perk, 41. afterward, 42. fearless