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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Lisa Krause: Who were Las Mariposas, and why were they murdered? | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/lisa\\_krause\\_who\\_were\\_las\\_mariposas\\_and\\_why\\_were\\_they\\_murdered](https://www.ted.com/talks/lisa_krause_who_were_las_mariposas_and_why_were_they_murdered)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### 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.

### 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**.

### enrich

v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

*synonym* : enhance, improve, augment

(1) **enrich** a gas with a balloon, (2) **enrich** public services

Reading not only increases knowledge but also **enriches** life.

### rename

v. to give a new name to something; to change the name of something

*synonym* : rebrand, rechristen, re-label

(1) **rename** the street, (2) **rename** in plain English  
The new owners **renamed** the restaurant to give it a fresh start.

## atrocious

*n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act  
*synonym*: evil, horror, iniquity

(1) commit **atrocious**, (2) cold-blooded **atrocious**  
The **atrocious** of the war left many children orphaned.

## massacre

*n.* the brutal and indiscriminate killing of a large number of people; a violent and bloody event that typically results in the death of many individuals  
*synonym*: slaughter, bloodbath, butchery

(1) **massacre** in the village, (2) animal **massacre**  
The **massacre** of innocent civilians in the war zone was a tragic event.

## oppress

*v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people  
*synonym*: antagonize, distress, burden

(1) **oppress** the minority, (2) **oppress** the people with force  
Historically, many countries have often **oppressed** certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

## disrespect

*n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something  
*synonym*: impoliteness, rudeness, insult

(1) mean no **disrespect**, (2) **disrespect** for a customer  
His **disrespectful** behavior towards his elders earned him a stern warning from his parents.

## confiscate

*v.* to seize, take or appropriate something by authority, often as a penalty for breaking laws or rules  
*synonym*: seize, take, expropriate

(1) **confiscate** drugs, (2) **confiscate** property

The security officer had to **confiscate** the weapon from the suspect.

### 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.

### clandestine

*adj.* done or kept in secret, especially because it is illegal or not allowed

*synonym*: secret, hidden, covert

(1) non- **clandestine** expenses, (2) a **clandestine** location

The spy carried out the mission in a **clandestine** manner.

### pamphlet

*n.* a small booklet that contains information or arguments about a particular subject

*synonym*: brochure, leaflet, booklet

(1) propaganda **pamphlet**, (2) **pamphlet** in English

The political organization handed out **pamphlets** to raise awareness about their cause.

### uprising

*n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority

*synonym*: revolt, rebellion, insurgency

(1) stage an **uprising**, (2) violent **uprising**

The anti-government **uprising** was successful in overthrowing the regime.

### asphyxiate

*v.* to make someone unable to breathe, usually resulting in unconscious or death

*synonym*: suffocate, choke, stifle

(1) **asphyxiate** him to death, (2) **asphyxiate** rival companies

Three people were **asphyxiated** in the crowd crush of the demo.

## stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

*synonym* : brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels

The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

## backfire

v. to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion

*synonym* : recoil, boomerang, misfire

(1) **backfire** big time, (2) **backfire** spectacularly

The company's decision to lay off a large number of employees **backfired** as it led to a decrease in productivity.

## flimsy

*adj.* very thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and not strong enough for the purpose for which it is used

*synonym* : delicate, insubstantial, fragile

(1) a **flimsy** structure, (2) make a **flimsy** excuse

His arguments are based on **flimsy** evidence.

## condemn

v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

*synonym* : criticize, denounce, censure

(1) **condemn** violence, (2) **condemn** crime

The government was **condemned** for its handling of the crisis.

## assassination

*n.* the act of killing a public figure, especially a political leader, usually for political or religious motives

*synonym* : murder, killing, execution

(1) failed **assassination** attempt, (2) **assassination** plot

The **assassination** of the president sent shockwaves through the nation.

## surpass

v. to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something

*synonym* : excel, outdo, outperform

(1) **surpass** imagination, (2) **surpass** \$20 billion in sales

The athlete's record-breaking performance **surpassed** all expectations.

## tyranny

*n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

*synonym* : despotism, oppression, dictatorship

(1) brutal **tyranny**, (2) **tyranny** of the majority

The country was ruled by a **tyranny** that oppressed its citizens.

## commemorate

*v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute

*synonym* : honor, remember, celebrate

(1) **commemorate** her long life, (2) **commemorate** a deed

The country **commemorated** the war heroes on Memorial Day.

## 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.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. dis_____ct for a customer    | <i>n.</i> an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something  |
| 2. im_____on illegal immigrant  | <i>v.</i> to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement  |
| 3. st_____ze blood sugar levels | <i>v.</i> to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way   |
| 4. animal ma_____re             | <i>n.</i> the brutal and indiscriminate killing of a large number of people; a violent and bloody event that typically results in the death of many individuals |
| 5. con_____te drugs             | <i>v.</i> to seize, take or appropriate something by authority, often as a penalty for breaking laws or rules   |
| 6. en____h public services      | <i>v.</i> to make better or improve in quality by adding something else   |
| 7. asp_____te rival companies   | <i>v.</i> to make someone unable to breathe, usually resulting in unconscious or death  |
| 8. ba_____re spectacularly      | <i>v.</i> to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion   |
| 9. cold-blooded at_____ty       | <i>n.</i> brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act  |
| 10. make a fl____y excuse       | <i>adj.</i> very thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and not strong enough for the purpose for which it is used                                      |

ANSWERS: 1. disrespect, 2. imprison, 3. stabilize, 4. massacre, 5. confiscate, 6. enrich, 7. asphyxiate, 8. backfire, 9. atrocity, 10. flimsy

- |                                      |      |   |
|--------------------------------------|------|---|
| 11. ov_____ow the theory             | v.   | to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force                                |
| 12. com_____te a deed                | v.   | to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute  |
| 13. commit at_____ty                 | n.   | brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act  |
| 14. con_____te property              | v.   | to seize, take or appropriate something by authority, often as a penalty for breaking laws or rules           |
| 15. re___e in plain English          | v.   | to give a new name to something; to change the name of something  |
| 16. ass_____ion plot                 | n.   | the act of killing a public figure, especially a political leader, usually for political or religious motives |
| 17. st_____ze prices                 | v.   | to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way   |
| 18. make a cou_____us decision       | adj. | able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching   |
| 19. failed ass_____ion attempt       | n.   | the act of killing a public figure, especially a political leader, usually for political or religious motives |
| 20. su_____s imagination             | v.   | to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something      |
| 21. im_____on myself within the room | v.   | to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement                  |
| 22. violent up_____ng                | n.   | a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority                                 |

ANSWERS: 11. overthrow, 12. commemorate, 13. atrocity, 14. confiscate, 15. rename, 16. assassination, 17. stabilize, 18. courageous, 19. assassination, 20. surpass, 21. imprison, 22. uprising

23. brutal ty\_\_\_\_y *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
24. su\_\_\_\_s \$20 billion in sales *v.* to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something
25. non-cla\_\_\_\_ne expenses *adj.* done or kept in secret, especially because it is illegal or not allowed
26. ov\_\_\_\_ow the government *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
27. re\_\_\_e the street *v.* to give a new name to something; to change the name of something
28. mean no dis\_\_\_\_ct *n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something
29. ma\_\_\_\_re in the village *n.* the brutal and indiscriminate killing of a large number of people; a violent and bloody event that typically results in the death of many individuals
30. ty\_\_\_\_y of the majority *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
31. stage an up\_\_\_\_ng *n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
32. op\_\_\_\_s the people with force *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

ANSWERS: 23. tyranny, 24. surpass, 25. clandestine, 26. overthrow, 27. rename, 28. disrespect, 29. massacre, 30. tyranny, 31. uprising, 32. oppress



33. military di\_\_\_\_or *n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
34. a fl\_\_\_\_y structure *adj.* very thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and not strong enough for the purpose for which it is used
35. en\_\_\_\_h a gas with a balloon *v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
36. com\_\_\_\_te her long life *v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
37. co\_\_\_\_n crime *v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
38. ba\_\_\_\_re big time *v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion
39. co\_\_\_\_n violence *v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
40. cou\_\_\_\_us rescue attempt *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
41. 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
42. pa\_\_\_\_et in English *n.* a small booklet that contains information or arguments about a particular subject
43. a cla\_\_\_\_ne location *adj.* done or kept in secret, especially because it is illegal or not allowed
44. propaganda pa\_\_\_\_et *n.* a small booklet that contains information or arguments about a particular subject

ANSWERS: 33. dictator, 34. flimsy, 35. enrich, 36. commemorate, 37. condemn, 38. backfire, 39. condemn, 40. courageous, 41. dictator, 42. pamphlet, 43. clandestine, 44. pamphlet

45. asp\_\_\_\_\_te him to death

v. to make someone unable to breathe, usually resulting in unconscious or death

46. op\_\_\_\_\_s the minority

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

ANSWERS: 45. asphyxiate, 46. oppress

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The anti-government \_\_\_\_\_ was successful in overthrowing the regime.  
*n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority
2. The raising of interest rates \_\_\_\_\_ the inflation rate.  
*v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
3. The new owners \_\_\_\_\_ the restaurant to give it a fresh start.  
*v.* to give a new name to something; to change the name of something
4. He was \_\_\_\_\_ for embezzlement.  
*v.* to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement
5. Reading not only increases knowledge but also \_\_\_\_\_ life.  
*v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
6. The country \_\_\_\_\_ the war heroes on Memorial Day.  
*v.* to honor the memory of someone or something by ceremony or tribute
7. The political organization handed out \_\_\_\_\_ to raise awareness about their cause.  
*n.* a small booklet that contains information or arguments about a particular subject
8. Three people were \_\_\_\_\_ in the crowd crush of the demo.  
*v.* to make someone unable to breathe, usually resulting in unconscious or death

ANSWERS: 1. uprising, 2. stabilizes, 3. renamed, 4. imprisoned, 5. enriches, 6. commemorated, 7. pamphlets, 8. asphyxiated

9. His \_\_\_\_\_ behavior towards his elders earned him a stern warning from his parents.  
*n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something
10. He was a \_\_\_\_\_ soldier who had served his country with honor.  
*adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
11. His arguments are based on \_\_\_\_\_ evidence.  
*adj.* very thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and not strong enough for the purpose for which it is used
12. The government was \_\_\_\_\_ for its handling of the crisis.  
*v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
13. The group aims to \_\_\_\_\_ the military regime.  
*v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
14. The athlete's record-breaking performance \_\_\_\_\_ all expectations.  
*v.* to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the war left many children orphaned.  
*n.* brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
16. The country was ruled by a \_\_\_\_\_ that oppressed its citizens.  
*n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

ANSWERS: 9. disrespectful, 10. courageous, 11. flimsy, 12. condemned, 13. overthrow, 14. surpassed, 15. atrocity, 16. tyranny

17. The security officer had to \_\_\_\_\_ the weapon from the suspect.
- v.* to seize, take or appropriate something by authority, often as a penalty for breaking laws or rules
18. 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
19. The \_\_\_\_\_ of innocent civilians in the war zone was a tragic event.
- n.* the brutal and indiscriminate killing of a large number of people; a violent and bloody event that typically results in the death of many individuals
20. Historically, many countries have often \_\_\_\_\_ certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.
- v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
21. The spy carried out the mission in a \_\_\_\_\_ manner.
- adj.* done or kept in secret, especially because it is illegal or not allowed
22. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the president sent shockwaves through the nation.
- n.* the act of killing a public figure, especially a political leader, usually for political or religious motives
23. The company's decision to lay off a large number of employees \_\_\_\_\_ as it led to a decrease in productivity.
- v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion

ANSWERS: 17. confiscate, 18. dictator, 19. massacre, 20. oppressed, 21. clandestine, 22. assassination, 23. backfired