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# Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

John Doerr and Hal Harvey: How to decarbonize the grid and electrify everything | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/john\_doerr\_and\_hal\_harve y\_how\_to\_decarbonize\_the\_grid\_and\_electrify\_every thing



# **Advanced Words Only**

#### **IMPORTANT**

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# **Session 1: Word List**

emit

v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.

synonym: give off, radiate, expel

(1) **emit** a gamma ray, (2) **emit** air pollution

During the unloading, the container box **emits** a clicking sound.

transcend

- v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something synonym: surpass, exceed, overcome
- (1) **transcend** boundaries, (2) **transcend** limits

  The music **transcended** cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

inequity

a lack of fairness or justice; an unfair or unequal situation or practice

synonym: injustice, unfairness, bias

(1) **inequity** in education, (2) market **inequity** 

There's an **inequity** in the criminal justice system that needs to be addressed.

timescale

 a period or interval of time, particularly one used as a standard for measuring or comparing other periods of time; a reference point or benchmark for the duration or length of a particular event or process

synonym: time frame, schedule, duration

(1) long- timescale, (2) realistic timescale

The **timescale** for completing the construction project is three years.

#### grandchild

- n. a child of someone's son or daughtersynonym: offspring, descendant, progeny
- (1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

#### decarbonize

v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy

synonym: decoke, decarburise, decarburize

- (1) decarbonize their manufacturing process,
- (2) decarbonize its energy system

We have to seek methods to **decarbonize** its fossil fuel economy.

# electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym: wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

# plummet

 to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

synonym: drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major

#### currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

#### urgently

 adv. in a way that requires immediate action or attention, especially before anything else, because of being very important

synonym: promptly, immediately, swiftly

(1) tackle the problem **urgently**, (2) **urgently** required I need to send this email **urgently**.

#### cobalt

n. a lustrous, hard, silver-white element with the symbol Co that is often used in alloys, batteries, and pigments and is essential for certain biological processes in humans and other organisms

synonym: Co

(1) cobalt steel, (2) cobalt blue

The blades of gas turbine engines are often coated with a **cobalt** layer to improve their durability.

#### fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym: captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

#### mundane

adj. very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

synonym: ordinary, everyday, prosaic

(1) mundane affairs, (2) mundane objects

After returning from the war, he had a pretty **mundane** life.

# thermodynamics

- the area of physics that deals with heat, work, and temperature and their relation to energy, entropy, and the physical properties of matter and radiation
- (1) applied **thermodynamics**, (2) the laws of **thermodynamics**

The second law of **thermodynamics** denies the existence of a perpetual motion engine.

### paltry

adj. lacking in importance, value, or quality; insignificant; meager or inadequate

synonym: insignificant, worthless, meager

(1) paltry sum, (2) paltry excuse

After working long hours for a **paltry** paycheck, the employee began to search for a new job.

#### commercialize

v. to make something available for sale or use on a large scale

synonym: monetize, capitalize, marketize

(1) **commercialize** my patents, (2) **commercialize** idea The company is trying to **commercialize** its new product.

# leapfrog

 a children's game in which players take turns jumping over each other's stooped backs

synonym: hopping, jumpfrog

(1) leapfrog game, (2) leapfrog technology

During recess, the children played a game of **leapfrog** in the schoolyard.

#### accelerant

 a substance or material that, when added to a fire, accelerates or increases the intensity of the flames; a chemical used to initiate or speed up a chemical reaction or process

synonym: fuel, kindling, igniter

(1) chemical **accelerant**, (2) **accelerant** for a fire The police found traces of **accelerant** at the scene of the arson.

# brilliantly

adv. in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively

synonym: brightly, radiantly, excellently

(1) brilliantly executed, (2) brilliantly lit

He played the piano **brilliantly** at the concert.

### germ

 a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

#### presume

v. to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance

synonym: assume, suppose, guess

(1) **presume** innocence, (2) **presume** on his tolerance I **presume** you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.

#### animate

- v. to make something full of interest and energy synonym: invigorate, energize, enliven
- (1) **animate** the body, (2) **animate** his soul The positive attitude of the supervisor **animated** the discussion.

#### tinker

v. to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way

synonym: fiddle, play, fix

(1) **tinker** with the bill, (2) **tinker** with the settings He spent the afternoon **tinkering** with his car engine.

# counterexample

 an example that contradicts or disproves a given hypothesis or generalization; evidence or an instance that renders an argument or statement invalid

synonym: refutation, counter-instance, disproof

(1) **counterexample** to the theory, (2) mathematical **counterexample** 

The student provided a counterexample to the teacher's

hypothesis, proving it untrue.

#### instructive

adj. serving to provide knowledge or information; tending to instruct or educate

synonym: educational, informative, enlightening

(1) instructive example, (2) instructive video

The book provided **instructive** advice on how to improve your public speaking skills.

# embargo

 a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment

synonym: ban, prohibition, restriction

(1) oil embargo, (2) economic embargo

The **embargo** on trade with the neighboring countries severely impacted the local economy.

# stagnation

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

synonym: inactivity, idleness, sluggishness

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

plateau

n. an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress

synonym: mesa, tableland, plain

(1) **plateau** region, (2) **plateau** in performance

The hikers finally reached the **plateau** after a long climb up the mountain.

### policymaker

*n*. a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

synonym: lawmaker, legislator

(1) education **policymaker**, (2) regional **policymaker Policymakers** struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.

#### 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.

#### senator

 a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate

synonym: legislator, politician, representative

(1) junior **senator**, (2) **senator** term

The hawkish **senator** gave a speech on the new bill in the Senate.

#### knob

 a round handle, especially one used for opening or closing a door, drawer, or cabinet

synonym: handle, lever

(1) handy knob, (2) knob closure

The **knob** on the drawer was loose and needed to be tightened.

#### excite

- v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate
- (1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion The news of her promotion **excited** her.

#### **electrolysis**

- a process or technique of chemical decomposition produced by passing an electric current through an ion-containing liquid or solution
- (1) **electrolysis** apparatus, (2) copper **electrolysis** process The **electrolysis** of water produces oxygen and hydrogen.

#### rethink

v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

synonym: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

# hydrocarbon

- an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon
- (1) **hydrocarbon** production, (2) **hydrocarbon** molecules in crude oil

Burning **hydrocarbons** releases water vapor and carbon dioxide.

## carbohydrate

 (also carb) any of a class of organic compounds that includes sugars, starch, and cellulose and are a principal source of energy in the diet of animals

synonym: sugar, starch, cellulose

- (1) complex **carbohydrate**, (2) **carbohydrate** metabolism Foods high in **carbohydrates** include bread, pasta, and rice.
- v. to slide or slip on a surface, especially in an uncontrolled or unsafe manner; to come to a sudden halt or stop with a scraping or sliding noise; (noun) a sliding or slipping motion of a vehicle, usually sideways or out of control, due to a loss of traction with the road surface

synonym: slide, slip, glide

(1) cause the tires to **skid**, (2) **skid** steer

The car started to **skid** on the icy road, but the driver was able to regain control.

gore

skid

v. to pierce with a sharp object, causing injury or death; (noun) coagulated blood from a wound

synonym: pierce, stab, puncture

(1) **gore** him with a weapon, (2) **gore** scene The hunter **gored** the deer with an arrow.

#### disbeliever

n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

*synonym*: non-believer, skeptic, doubter

(1) persuade a **disbeliever**, (2) stubborn **disbeliever** Despite the evidence, she remained a **disbeliever** in the theory of evolution.

#### determinant

 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.

#### hinder

 to make it difficult for someone to do something; to limit the development of something

synonym: frustrate, hamper, interfere

(1) **hinder** athletic performance, (2) **hinder** international exchanges

The pandemic **hindered** the growth of the airline industry.

# amplify

- v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness synonym: intensify, boost, argument
- (1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect You might need to **amplify** this point.

# proselytize

 to try to convert someone to a new belief or opinion, typically a religious or political one; to advocate or spread a particular doctrine or ideology

synonym: evangelize, convert, proselyte

(1) **proselytize** beliefs, (2) **proselytize** religion Some missionaries attempt to **proselytize** their faith to those who are not interested.

#### takeaway

a message or conclusion that can be taken away from a situation or piece of information

synonym: conclusion, message, insight

(1) takeaway pizza, (2) takeaway message

The main **takeaway** from the meeting was the need for better communication.

#### optimist

n. a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the futuresynonym: positive thinker, dreamer, idealist

(1) **optimist** by nature, (2) excessive **optimist**She is a confident **optimist** who always looks on the bright side.

#### piffle

n. meaningless or foolish talk, often used to imply that something is trivial, insignificant, or unimportantsynonym: nonsense, silliness, rubbish

(1) pointless **piffle**, (2) filled with empty **piffle**His explanation was a load of **piffle**, lacking any substance or logical reasoning.

# **Session 2: Spelling**

1.	hydon molecules in crude oil	n.	an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon
2.	chemical accnt	n.	a substance or material that, when added to a fire, accelerates or increases the intensity of the flames; a chemical used to initiate or speed up a chemical reaction or process
3.	elfy the audience	ν.	to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
4.	regional poler	n.	a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
5.	decze its energy system	v.	to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
6.	trnd limits	ν.	to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
7.	accnt for a fire	n.	a substance or material that, when added to a fire, accelerates or increases the intensity of the flames; a chemical used to initiate or speed up a chemical reaction or process
8.	hydon production	n.	an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon

ANSWERS: 1. hydrocarbon, 2. accelerant, 3. electrify, 4. policymaker, 5. decarbonize, 6. transcend, 7. accelerant, 8. hydrocarbon

ocab-Builder Ref from "John Doerr and Hal Harvey: How to decarbonize the grid and electrify everything   TED Talk" (46 words)			
9.	taay pizza	n.	a message or conclusion that can be taken away from a situation or piece of information
10.	ane his soul	<i>v</i> .	to make something full of interest and energy
11.	grald-grandparent relationship	n.	a child of someone's son or daughter
12.	dite stress	<i>v</i> .	to disperse or scatter widely
13.	pay sum	adj.	lacking in importance, value, or quality; insignificant; meager or inadequate
14.	handy kb	n.	a round handle, especially one used for opening or closing a door, drawer, or cabinet
15.	elesis apparatus	n.	a process or technique of chemical decomposition produced by passing an electric current through an ion-containing liquid or solution
16.	tir with the bill	<i>v</i> .	to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way
17.	insve video	adj.	serving to provide knowledge or information; tending to instruct or educate
18.	comize idea	ν.	to make something available for sale or use on a large scale

use on a large scale

20. mu\_\_\_e affairs

adj. very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

19. com\_\_\_\_ize my patents

to make something available for sale or

ANSWERS: 9. takeaway, 10. animate, 11. grandchild, 12. dissipate, 13. paltry, 14. knob, 15. electrolysis, 16. tinker, 17. instructive, 18. commercialize, 19. commercialize, 20. mundane

ANSWERS: 21. urgently, 22. mundane, 23. decarbonize, 24. presume, 25. counterexample, 26. proselytize, 27. thermodynamics, 28. piffle

timescale, 44. embargo, 45. paltry, 46. counterexample, 47. embargo

ANSWERS: 48. excite, 49. germ, 50. plateau, 51. gore, 52. hinder, 53. fascinate, 54. skid, 55. emit, 56. determinant

57.	persuade a diser	n.	a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
58.	junior ser	n.	a member of a legislative body, especially a member of the U.S. Senate
59.	fate the public	v.	to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
60.	filled with empty pie	n.	meaningless or foolish talk, often used to imply that something is trivial, insignificant, or unimportant
61.	antibiotic-resistant gm	n.	a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
62.	environmental detnt	n.	a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
63.	tir with the settings	<i>v</i> .	to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way
64.	complex carate	n.	(also carb) any of a class of organic compounds that includes sugars, starch, and cellulose and are a principal source of energy in the diet of animals
65.	amy a signal	v.	to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
66.	leog game	n.	a children's game in which players take turns jumping over each other's stooped backs

ANSWERS: 57. disbeliever, 58. senator, 59. fascinate, 60. piffle, 61. germ, 62. determinant, 63. tinker, 64. carbohydrate, 65. amplify, 66. leapfrog

rethink, 73. proselytize, 74. knob, 75. plateau

ANSWERS: 76. brilliantly, 77. inequity, 78. plummet, 79. presume, 80. excite, 81. skid, 82. optimist, 83. disbeliever, 84. leapfrog

ANSWERS: 85. cobalt, 86. timescale, 87. stagnation, 88. instructive, 89. senator, 90. policymaker, 91. inequity, 92. hinder

Vocab-Builder Ref from	"John Doerr and Hal Harvey: How to decarbonize the grid and electrify everything   TED Talk" (46 words
ANSWERS:	

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

1.	struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.
n.	a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party business, etc.
2.	The blades of gas turbine engines are often coated with a layer to improve their durability.
n.	a lustrous, hard, silver-white element with the symbol Co that is often used in alloys, batteries, and pigments and is essential for certain biological processes in humans and other organisms
3.	I need to send this email
ad	v. in a way that requires immediate action or attention, especially before anything else, because of being very important
4.	After working long hours for a paycheck, the employee began to search for a new job.
adj	i. lacking in importance, value, or quality; insignificant; meager or inadequate
5.	The student provided a to the teacher's hypothesis, proving it untrue.
n.	an example that contradicts or disproves a given hypothesis or generalization; evidence or an instance that renders an argument or statement invalid
3.	During recess, the children played a game of in the schoolyard.
n.	a children's game in which players take turns jumping over each other's stooped backs
	SWERS: 1. Policymakers, 2. cobalt, 3. urgently, 4. paltry, 5. counterexample, 6. pfrog

31.	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
32.	I you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.
<i>v</i> .	to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance
33.	The positive attitude of the supervisor the discussion.
v.	to make something full of interest and energy
34.	The fog and the air cleared up.
v.	to disperse or scatter widely
35.	The for completing the construction project is three years.
n.	a period or interval of time, particularly one used as a standard for measuring or comparing other periods of time; a reference point or benchmark for the duration or length of a particular event or process
36.	The grandparents take care of their while the parents are at work.
n.	a child of someone's son or daughter
37.	He spent the afternoon with his car engine.
v.	to make repairs, adjustments, or improvements to something, especially in an experimental or makeshift way
38.	Despite the evidence, she remained a in the theory of evolution.
n.	a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
	SWERS: 31. determinant, 32. presume, 33. animated, 34. dissipated, 35. escale, 36. grandchild, 37. tinkering, 38. disbeliever

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ANSWERS:	