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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Amy C. Edmondson: How to lead in a crisis | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/amy\\_c\\_edmondson\\_how\\_to\\_lead\\_in\\_a\\_crisis](https://www.ted.com/talks/amy_c_edmondson_how_to_lead_in_a_crisis)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### unwavering

*adj.* not changing or becoming weaker in any way; remaining steadily fixed or resolute in purpose or commitment

*synonym*: steadfast, resolute, firm

(1) **unwavering** commitment, (2) **unwavering** confidence

She showed **unwavering** loyalty to her friend through thick and thin.

### upend

*v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order

*synonym*: overturn, upset, invert

(1) **upend** a table, (2) **upend** a tradition

The sudden news **upended** their plans for the weekend.

### upheaval

*n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation

*synonym*: disturbance, turmoil, upheaval

(1) **upheaval** of society, (2) the big **upheaval** of my life

The recent political **upheaval** has left the country in a state of chaos.

### interconnect

*v.* to connect similar things

*synonym*: interlink, complect, annex

(1) directly **interconnect** with those systems, (2) human

activities **interconnect** with the environment

Our system can now **interconnect** with other databases.

## 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.

## crave

*v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

*synonym*: desire, yearn, long for

(1) **crave** chocolate, (2) **crave** advice from others

She **craves** success and is always pushing herself to do better.

## incline

*v.* to lean or bend in a particular direction; to feel a strong willingness or preference toward something

*synonym*: lean, slant, slope

(1) **incline** towards a certain opinion, (2) **incline** my head

I **incline** toward the idea of taking a vacation instead of working overtime.

## playbook

*n.* a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action

*synonym*: strategy, game plan, manual

(1) **playbook** strategy, (2) political **playbook**

The coach's **playbook** helped the team win the championship.

## humility

*n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

*synonym*: humbleness, modesty, unpretentiousness

(1) develop an attitude of **humility**, (2) lack of **humility**

We were filled with **humility** at the sight of the Queen.

## pretension

*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

*synonym*: presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

## paradoxical

*adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true

*synonym*: contradictory, conflicting, perplexing

(1) a **paradoxical** anecdote, (2) apparently **paradoxical**

it is **paradoxical** that the French, who prefer animal foods, live longer than people in other countries.

## pandemic

*n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

*synonym*: outbreak

(1) flu **pandemic**, (2) global **pandemic**

They fear a **pandemic** of a new type of virus.

## 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.

## industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym*: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

## inaction

*n.* the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed

*synonym* : idleness, passivity, inertia

(1) excuse for **inaction**, (2) consequences of **inaction**

**Inaction** in response to climate change poses a dire threat to our future.

## coronavirus

*n.* a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2

*synonym* : covid

(1) **coronavirus** antibody test kit, (2) **coronavirus** bankruptcy

Considering the situation of **coronavirus**, organized stopped this year's beer festival.

## lockdown

*n.* an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19

(1) go on **lockdown**, (2) **lockdown** area

The country's prime minister has decided to implement a nationwide **lockdown** measure.

## 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.

## steadfast

*adj.* firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges

*synonym* : unwavering, resolute, steadfast

(1) **steadfast** commitment, (2) **steadfast** determination

The **steadfast** soldier refused to leave his post despite the

danger.

## **bolster**

*v.* to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources

*synonym*: reinforce, support, strengthen

(1) **bolster** confidence, (2) **bolster** the economy

The company hired a new advertising agency to **bolster** its marketing efforts.

## **instinct**

*n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

*synonym*: intuition, aptitude, feeling

(1) **instinct** for self-preservation, (2) aggressive **instinct**

When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial **instinct** was to flee.

## **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.

## **counterintuitive**

*adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest

*synonym*: unreasonable, paradoxical, nonsensical

(1) **counterintuitive** results, (2) **counterintuitive** behavior

The **counterintuitive** nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.

## **doe**

*n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

*synonym*: rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

**provoke**

v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect

*synonym*: stimulate, incite, encourage

(1) **provoke** a disease, (2) **provoke** a reaction

Her behavior **provoked** a quarrel between the couple.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. unw_____ng confidence | <i>adj.</i> not changing or becoming weaker in any way; remaining steadily fixed or resolute in purpose or commitment                                                                                                                                                         |
| 2. stage an up_____ng    | <i>n.</i> a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3. in_____e my head      | <i>v.</i> to lean or bend in a particular direction; to feel a strong willingness or preference toward something                                                                                                                                                              |
| 4. ba_____re big time    | <i>v.</i> to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion                                                                                                                                                           |
| 5. cor_____us bankruptcy | <i>n.</i> a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 |
| 6. up__d a table         | <i>v.</i> to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 7. pr_____e a reaction   | <i>v.</i> to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 8. flu pa_____ic         | <i>n.</i> an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 9. pl_____ok strategy    | <i>n.</i> a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action                                                                                              |

ANSWERS: 1. unwavering, 2. uprising, 3. incline, 4. backfire, 5. coronavirus, 6. upend, 7. provoke, 8. pandemic, 9. playbook

10. unw\_\_\_\_\_ng commitment *adj.* not changing or becoming weaker in any way; remaining steadily fixed or resolute in purpose or commitment
11. lack of hu\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
12. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
13. cou\_\_\_\_\_ive results *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
14. de\_\_\_\_\_te an area *v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
15. di\_\_\_\_\_te stress *v.* to disperse or scatter widely
16. bo\_\_\_\_\_r confidence *v.* to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources
17. up\_\_d a tradition *v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
18. human activities int\_\_\_\_\_ect with the environment *v.* to connect similar things
19. apparently par\_\_\_\_\_al *adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true
20. st\_\_\_\_\_st determination *adj.* firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges
21. directly int\_\_\_\_\_ect with those systems *v.* to connect similar things

ANSWERS: 10. unwavering, 11. humility, 12. industrious, 13. counterintuitive, 14. devastate, 15. dissipate, 16. bolster, 17. upend, 18. interconnect, 19. paradoxical, 20. steadfast, 21. interconnect



22. pr\_\_\_\_\_e a disease *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
23. baseless pre\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
24. in\_\_\_\_\_e towards a certain opinion *v.* to lean or bend in a particular direction; to feel a strong willingness or preference toward something
25. buck and d\_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
26. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
27. d\_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
28. go on lo\_\_\_\_\_wn *n.* an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19
29. di\_\_\_\_\_te heat *v.* to disperse or scatter widely
30. bo\_\_\_\_\_r the economy *v.* to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources
31. develop an attitude of hu\_\_\_\_\_ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
32. de\_\_\_\_\_te the economy *v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage

ANSWERS: 22. provoke, 23. pretension, 24. incline, 25. doe, 26. industrious, 27. doe, 28. lockdown, 29. dissipate, 30. bolster, 31. humility, 32. devastate

33. in\_\_\_\_\_ct for self-preservation *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
34. consequences of in\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed
35. ba\_\_\_\_\_re spectacularly *v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion
36. up\_\_\_\_\_al of society *n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
37. lo\_\_\_\_\_wn area *n.* an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19
38. global pa\_\_\_\_\_ic *n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
39. cor\_\_\_\_\_us antibody test kit *n.* a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2
40. pre\_\_\_\_\_on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

ANSWERS: 33. instinct, 34. inaction, 35. backfire, 36. upheaval, 37. lockdown, 38. pandemic, 39. coronavirus, 40. pretension

41. cou\_\_\_\_\_ive behavior      *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
42. a par\_\_\_\_\_al anecdote      *adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true
43. excuse for in\_\_\_\_\_on      *n.* the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed
44. the big up\_\_\_\_\_al of my life      *n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
45. st\_\_\_\_\_st commitment      *adj.* firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges
46. cr\_\_e advice from others      *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
47. political pl\_\_\_\_\_ok      *n.* a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action
48. aggressive in\_\_\_\_\_ct      *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
49. violent up\_\_\_\_\_ng      *n.* a public rebellion, especially against an established government or authority

ANSWERS: 41. counterintuitive, 42. paradoxical, 43. inaction, 44. upheaval, 45. steadfast, 46. crave, 47. playbook, 48. instinct, 49. uprising

50. cr\_\_e chocolate

v. to have a strong desire for something;  
to long for or want intensely

ANSWERS: 50. crave

## 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. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
3. The fog \_\_\_\_\_ and the air cleared up.  
*v.* to disperse or scatter widely
4. His \_\_\_\_\_ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.  
*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
5. We were filled with \_\_\_\_\_ at the sight of the Queen.  
*n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
6. Hunters use a whistle that makes the \_\_\_\_ sound to lure stags.  
*n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
7. She showed \_\_\_\_\_ loyalty to her friend through thick and thin.  
*adj.* not changing or becoming weaker in any way; remaining steadily fixed or resolute in purpose or commitment
8. Considering the situation of \_\_\_\_\_ organized stopped this year's beer festival.  
*n.* a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2

ANSWERS: 1. uprising, 2. industrious, 3. dissipated, 4. pretensions, 5. humility, 6. doe, 7. unwavering, 8. coronavirus,

9. They fear a \_\_\_\_\_ of a new type of virus.  
*n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
10. When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial \_\_\_\_\_ was to flee.  
*n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
11. it is \_\_\_\_\_ that the French, who prefer animal foods, live longer than people in other countries.  
*adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true
12. Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which \_\_\_\_\_ coastal areas.  
*v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
13. The country's prime minister has decided to implement a nationwide \_\_\_\_\_ measure.  
*n.* an emergency policy for people, communities, or a country to stay where they are, usually due to specific risks, such as COVID-19
14. The sudden news \_\_\_\_\_ their plans for the weekend.  
*v.* to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
15. 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
16. The recent political \_\_\_\_\_ has left the country in a state of chaos.  
*n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation

ANSWERS: 9. pandemic, 10. instinct, 11. paradoxical, 12. devastate, 13. lockdown, 14. upended, 15. backfired, 16. upheaval

17. \_\_\_\_\_ in response to climate change poses a dire threat to our future.  
*n.* the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed
18. The \_\_\_\_\_ soldier refused to leave his post despite the danger.  
*adj.* firm, unwavering, or determined in purpose or belief; resolute and loyal even in the face of adversity or challenges
19. The company hired a new advertising agency to \_\_\_\_\_ its marketing efforts.  
*v.* to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources
20. She \_\_\_\_\_ success and is always pushing herself to do better.  
*v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
21. Her behavior \_\_\_\_\_ a quarrel between the couple.  
*v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
22. Our system can now \_\_\_\_\_ with other databases.  
*v.* to connect similar things
23. I \_\_\_\_\_ toward the idea of taking a vacation instead of working overtime.  
*v.* to lean or bend in a particular direction; to feel a strong willingness or preference toward something
24. The \_\_\_\_\_ nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.  
*adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
25. The coach's \_\_\_\_\_ helped the team win the championship.  
*n.* a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action

ANSWERS: 17. Inaction, 18. steadfast, 19. bolster, 20. craves, 21. provoked, 22. interconnect, 23. incline, 24. counterintuitive, 25. playbook

ANSWERS: