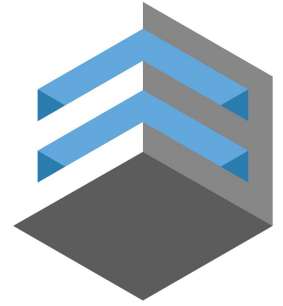


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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Iseult Gillespie: The meaning of life according to Simone de Beauvoir | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/iseult_gillespie_the_meaning_of_life_according_to_simone_de_beauvoir

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

platonic

adj. (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual

synonym: nonphysical, nonsexual, spiritual

(1) **platonic** relationship, (2) **platonic** love

His relationship with her was completely **platonic**.

unchanging

adj. not changing or subject to change; constant

synonym: constant, stable, static

(1) **unchanging** laws, (2) rigidly **unchanging**

The **unchanging** nature of the mountain range was a source of constant wonder for the hikers.

enthrall

v. to capture or hold someone's attention or interest completely; to captivate or fascinate

synonym: captivate, charm, fascinate

(1) **enthrall** with beauty, (2) **enthrall** the reader

The magician's illusions always managed to **enthrall** the audience.

sensual

adj. relating to or consisting in the gratification of the senses or the indulgence of physical pleasure

synonym: sensuous, hedonistic, pleasure-seeking

(1) **sensual** appeal, (2) speak in a **sensual** tone

The room was filled with the **sensual** aroma of incense and flowers.

endlessly

adv. in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

synonym: ceaselessly, interminably, unceasingly

(1) repeat **endlessly**, (2) worry **endlessly** about our future

The procession of demonstrators was **endlessly** continuing.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

jean

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

synonym: denim, cotton, pants

(1) a **jean** skirt, (2) **jean** denim

She wore her favorite pair of **jeans** to the party.

converge

v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

synonym: congregate, assemble, concentrate

(1) **converge** of a series, (2) **converge** from different points

The two rivers **converge** into one near this area.

preordain

v. to determine or decree something in advance; to believe or accept that an outcome is predetermined by a higher power or fate

synonym: predestine, predetermine, fate

(1) **preordain** the sequence of events, (2) **preordain** my future

Some people believe that a higher power **preordains** everything that happens in life.

ambiguity

n. the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning

synonym: uncertainty, vagueness, obscurity

(1) free from **ambiguity**, (2) avoid **ambiguity** in writing

The **ambiguity** in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.

womanhood

n. the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman

synonym: femininity, womanliness, womanly nature

(1) **womanhood** experience, (2) embrace **womanhood**

The celebration of **womanhood** is often disregarded in male-dominated industries.

prolific

adj. producing many works, results, or offspring

synonym: productive, fertile, abundant

(1) **prolific** apple tree, (2) **prolific** period

The **prolific** author had written over 20 books in just five years.

Catholic

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

(1) **catholic** in his tastes, (2) the **Catholic** Church

Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.

upbringing

n. the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development

synonym: childhood, background, nurturing

(1) Catholic **upbringing**, (2) family **upbringing**

His strict **upbringing** instilled in him a strong sense of responsibility.

memoir

n. a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events

synonym : bio, biography

(1) family **memoir**, (2) publish a **memoir**

He wrote his **memoirs** while awaiting trial.

embark

v. to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something

synonym : enter, undertake, commence

(1) **embark** on a trip, (2) **embark** on a foolish adventure

We **embarked** on a new project.

redefine

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

synonym : reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role

The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

destine

v. to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome

synonym : ordain, doom, predestine

(1) **destine** us to meet again, (2) be **destined** to become a great artist

Some people believe that we are all **destined** for greatness.

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.

anecdotal

adj. based on personal accounts or stories that may not be verifiable or representative of a larger population;

characterized by anecdotes or casual observations rather than scientific data or empirical evidence

synonym: hearsay, informal, unreliable

(1) **anecdotal** evidence, (2) **anecdotal** example

My friend shared an **anecdotal** story about her experience in customer service.

insistence

n. the act or an instance of demanding or saying something clearly; persistence

synonym: persistence, determination, demand

(1) collective **insistence**, (2) rigid **insistence**

Despite her **insistence**, he refused to change his mind.

accusation

n. a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone

synonym: charge, indictment, imputation

(1) criminal **accusation**, (2) false **accusation**

The **accusation** of theft was unfounded, and the suspect was eventually cleared of all charges.

revoke

v. to officially cancel, annul, or withdraw something, often a law, privilege, or right that was previously granted

synonym: annul, cancel, repeal

(1) **revoke** a license, (2) **revoke** a contract

The company decided to **revoke** their offer of employment after discovering the applicant's criminal background.

contentious

adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue

synonym: antagonistic, combative, confrontational

(1) **contentious** subject, (2) **contentious** debate

There are many **contentious** issues in claiming a patent.

feminism

n. the belief in and advocacy of equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all genders, particularly women, and the recognition of the systematic and cultural oppression

of women in society

synonym: women's rights, gender equality

(1) radical **feminism**, (2) liberal **feminism**

She is a strong advocate for **feminism** and works tirelessly for women's rights.

reimagine

v. to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

synonym: re-conceptualize, re-envision, re-create

(1) **reimagine** the future, (2) **reimagine** the possibilities

The company is trying to **reimagine** its business model to stay competitive.

revisit

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

synonym: reexplore, review, reexamine

(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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. j__n denim *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
2. worry en_____ly about our future *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
3. re_____ne customer experience *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
4. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
5. em___k on a trip *v.* to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
6. pl_____ic relationship *adj.* (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual
7. be de_____ed to become a great artist *v.* to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome
8. an_____al evidence *adj.* based on personal accounts or stories that may not be verifiable or representative of a larger population; characterized by anecdotes or casual observations rather than scientific data or empirical evidence

ANSWERS: 1. jean, 2. endlessly, 3. redefine, 4. intellect, 5. embark, 6. platonic, 7. destine, 8. anecdotal

9. con_____us subject *adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
10. co_____ge from different points *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
11. re___e a license *v.* to officially cancel, annul, or withdraw something, often a law, privilege, or right that was previously granted
12. en_____ll with beauty *v.* to capture or hold someone's attention or interest completely; to captivate or fascinate
13. radical fe_____sm *n.* the belief in and advocacy of equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all genders, particularly women, and the recognition of the systematic and cultural oppression of women in society
14. ca_____ic in his tastes *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
15. con_____us debate *adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
16. re___e a contract *v.* to officially cancel, annul, or withdraw something, often a law, privilege, or right that was previously granted
17. Catholic upb_____ng *n.* the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development

ANSWERS: 9. contentious, 10. converge, 11. revoke, 12. enthrall, 13. feminism, 14. Catholic, 15. contentious, 16. revoke, 17. upbringing

18. se_____l appeal *adj.* relating to or consisting in the gratification of the senses or the indulgence of physical pleasure
19. de_____e us to meet again *v.* to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome
20. pr_____in the sequence of events *v.* to determine or decree something in advance; to believe or accept that an outcome is predetermined by a higher power or fate
21. unc_____ng laws *adj.* not changing or subject to change; constant
22. criminal acc_____on *n.* a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone
23. speak in a se_____l tone *adj.* relating to or consisting in the gratification of the senses or the indulgence of physical pleasure
24. avoid am_____ty in writing *n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
25. pr_____ic period *adj.* producing many works, results, or offspring
26. en_____ll the reader *v.* to capture or hold someone's attention or interest completely; to captivate or fascinate

ANSWERS: 18. sensual, 19. destine, 20. preordain, 21. unchanging, 22. accusation, 23. sensual, 24. ambiguity, 25. prolific, 26. enthrall

27. collective ins_____ce *n.* the act or an instance of demanding or saying something clearly; persistence
28. an_____al example *adj.* based on personal accounts or stories that may not be verifiable or representative of a larger population; characterized by anecdotes or casual observations rather than scientific data or empirical evidence
29. the Ca_____ic Church *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
30. pr_____in my future *v.* to determine or decree something in advance; to believe or accept that an outcome is predetermined by a higher power or fate
31. family me____r *n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
32. re_____ne the possibilities *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
33. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
34. liberal fe_____sm *n.* the belief in and advocacy of equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all genders, particularly women, and the recognition of the systematic and cultural oppression of women in society
35. wo_____od experience *n.* the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman

ANSWERS: 27. insistence, 28. anecdotal, 29. Catholic, 30. preordain, 31. memoir, 32. reimagine, 33. intellect, 34. feminism, 35. womanhood

36. a j__n skirt *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
37. publish a me___r *n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
38. pr____ic apple tree *adj.* producing many works, results, or offspring
39. family upb_____ng *n.* the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development
40. free from am_____ty *n.* the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning
41. re_____t a place *v.* to go to a place again, especially after a long period
42. re_____ne our role *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
43. pl_____ic love *adj.* (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual
44. re_____ne the future *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
45. false acc_____on *n.* a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone
46. co_____ge of a series *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

ANSWERS: 36. jean, 37. memoir, 38. prolific, 39. upbringing, 40. ambiguity, 41. revisit, 42. redefine, 43. platonic, 44. reimagine, 45. accusation, 46. converge

47. em___k on a foolish adventure *v.* to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
48. re_____t an old friend *v.* to go to a place again, especially after a long period
49. 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
50. rigid ins_____ce *n.* the act or an instance of demanding or saying something clearly; persistence
51. 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
52. repeat en_____ly *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
53. embrace wo_____od *n.* the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman
54. rigidly unc_____ng *adj.* not changing or subject to change; constant

ANSWERS: 47. embark, 48. revisit, 49. oppress, 50. insistence, 51. oppress, 52. endlessly, 53. womanhood, 54. unchanging

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. We _____ on a new project.
v. to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something

2. There are many _____ issues in claiming a patent.
adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue

3. Sociologists are now interested in _____ world peace.
adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

4. My friend shared an _____ story about her experience in customer service.
adj. based on personal accounts or stories that may not be verifiable or representative of a larger population; characterized by anecdotes or casual observations rather than scientific data or empirical evidence

5. We need to _____ this proposal as soon as the budget is more apparent than before.
v. to go to a place again, especially after a long period

6. 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

7. He wrote his _____ while awaiting trial.
n. a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events

ANSWERS: 1. embarked, 2. contentious, 3. catholic, 4. anecdotal, 5. revisit, 6. oppressed, 7. memoirs

8. The _____ of theft was unfounded, and the suspect was eventually cleared of all charges.
- n.* a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone
9. His relationship with her was completely _____.
- adj.* (of relationship or emotion) friendly or affectionate but not sexual
10. His strict _____ instilled in him a strong sense of responsibility.
- n.* the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development
11. The procession of demonstrators was _____ continuing.
- adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
12. Some people believe that a higher power _____ everything that happens in life.
- v.* to determine or decree something in advance; to believe or accept that an outcome is predetermined by a higher power or fate
13. The company is trying to _____ its business model to stay competitive.
- v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
14. The video telephony application has _____ the way we work.
- v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
15. Despite her _____ he refused to change his mind.
- n.* the act or an instance of demanding or saying something clearly; persistence

ANSWERS: 8. accusation, 9. platonic, 10. upbringing, 11. endlessly, 12. preordains, 13. reimagine, 14. redefined, 15. insistence,

16. The _____ nature of the mountain range was a source of constant wonder for the hikers.

adj. not changing or subject to change; constant

17. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

18. She is a strong advocate for _____ and works tirelessly for women's rights.

n. the belief in and advocacy of equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all genders, particularly women, and the recognition of the systematic and cultural oppression of women in society

19. The _____ author had written over 20 books in just five years.

adj. producing many works, results, or offspring

20. The celebration of _____ is often disregarded in male-dominated industries.

n. the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman

21. She wore her favorite pair of _____ to the party.

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

22. The _____ in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.

n. the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning

23. Some people believe that we are all _____ for greatness.

v. to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome

ANSWERS: 16. unchanging, 17. intellect, 18. feminism, 19. prolific, 20. womanhood, 21. jeans, 22. ambiguity, 23. destined

24. The magician's illusions always managed to _____ the audience.
- v. to capture or hold someone's attention or interest completely; to captivate or fascinate
25. The two rivers _____ into one near this area.
- v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
26. The company decided to _____ their offer of employment after discovering the applicant's criminal background.
- v. to officially cancel, annul, or withdraw something, often a law, privilege, or right that was previously granted
27. The room was filled with the _____ aroma of incense and flowers.
- adj. relating to or consisting in the gratification of the senses or the indulgence of physical pleasure

ANSWERS: 24. enthrall, 25. converge, 26. revoke, 27. sensual