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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alex Gendler: Can you outsmart this logical fallacy? |  
TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/alex\\_gendler\\_can\\_you\\_outsmart\\_this\\_logical\\_fallacy](https://www.ted.com/talks/alex_gendler_can_you_outsmart_this_logical_fallacy)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### probabilistic

*adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks

*synonym* : probable, statistical, likely

(1) **probabilistic** model, (2) **probabilistic** approach

In a **probabilistic** system, the outcome is uncertain and can vary based on chance.

### poke

*v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger

*synonym* : prod, jab, push

(1) **poke** around the desk, (2) **poke** a fire

They **poked** fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.

### 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.

### believable

*adj.* able to be accepted or easily believed; convincing or plausible

*synonym* : plausible, credible, convincing

(1) **believable** story, (2) **believable** excuse

The novel's plot was so well-written that it seemed **believable** and realistic.

## fallacy

*n.* a mistaken belief, idea, or argument that is not supported by facts or evidence; a deceptive or misleading statement or belief

*synonym*: falsity, misconception, delusion

(1) **fallacy** of logic, (2) belief in a **fallacy**

Many people cling to the **fallacy** that they can get rich quickly, despite all evidence.

## resonate

*v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound

*synonym*: echo, reverberate, resound

(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency

The sound **resonates** well in this theater.

## intuition

*n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

*synonym*: instinct, gut feeling, sixth sense

(1) creative **intuition**, (2) **intuition** research

Some studies suggest that people's **intuitions** can be influenced by their experiences and biases.

## diplomat

*n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

*synonym*: envoy, ambassador, representative

(1) allied **diplomat**, (2) expel a **diplomat**

The senior **diplomat** worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

## resonant

*adj.* tending to reinforce or prolong sound by sympathetic vibration; having a quality that elicits a similar response or feeling

*synonym* : echoing, reverberating, resonating

(1) **resonant** with the sound, (2) **resonant** cavity

The **resonant** frequency of the guitar string was measured with a tuner.

## outlandish

*adj.* bizarre, strange, or unconventional in appearance, behavior, or thought, often in a way that is seen as foreign or exotic; unusual or strikingly different from what is expected or normal

*synonym* : eccentric, bizarre, strange

(1) **outlandish** proposal, (2) **outlandish** behavior

The **outlandish** outfit drew the attention of everyone in the room.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. pro\_\_\_\_\_tic model  
*adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
2. creative in\_\_\_\_\_on  
*n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
3. belief in a fa\_\_\_\_\_y  
*n.* a mistaken belief, idea, or argument that is not supported by facts or evidence; a deceptive or misleading statement or belief
4. allied di\_\_\_\_\_at  
*n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
5. p\_\_e around the desk  
*v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
6. re\_\_\_\_\_nt cavity  
*adj.* tending to reinforce or prolong sound by sympathetic vibration; having a quality that elicits a similar response or feeling
7. in\_\_\_\_\_on research  
*n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

ANSWERS: 1. probabilistic, 2. intuition, 3. fallacy, 4. diplomat, 5. poke, 6. resonant, 7. intuition

8. cou\_\_\_\_\_ive behavior      *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
9. re\_\_\_\_\_nt with the sound      *adj.* tending to reinforce or prolong sound by sympathetic vibration; having a quality that elicits a similar response or feeling
10. deeply re\_\_\_\_\_te with the consumers      *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
11. out\_\_\_\_\_sh behavior      *adj.* bizarre, strange, or unconventional in appearance, behavior, or thought, often in a way that is seen as foreign or exotic; unusual or strikingly different from what is expected or normal
12. p\_\_e a fire      *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
13. cou\_\_\_\_\_ive results      *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
14. bel\_\_\_\_\_le story      *adj.* able to be accepted or easily believed; convincing or plausible
15. expel a di\_\_\_\_\_at      *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
16. bel\_\_\_\_\_le excuse      *adj.* able to be accepted or easily believed; convincing or plausible
17. re\_\_\_\_\_te in the same frequency      *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
18. out\_\_\_\_\_sh proposal      *adj.* bizarre, strange, or unconventional in appearance, behavior, or thought, often in a way that is seen as foreign or exotic; unusual or strikingly different from what is expected or normal

ANSWERS: 8. counterintuitive, 9. resonant, 10. resonate, 11. outlandish, 12. poke, 13. counterintuitive, 14. believable, 15. diplomat, 16. believable, 17. resonate, 18. outlandish

19. fa\_\_\_\_y of logic

*n.* a mistaken belief, idea, or argument that is not supported by facts or evidence; a deceptive or misleading statement or belief

20. pro\_\_\_\_\_tic approach

*adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks

ANSWERS: 19. fallacy, 20. probabilistic

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Many people cling to the \_\_\_\_\_ that they can get rich quickly, despite all evidence.  
*n.* a mistaken belief, idea, or argument that is not supported by facts or evidence; a deceptive or misleading statement or belief
2. The novel's plot was so well-written that it seemed \_\_\_\_\_ and realistic.  
*adj.* able to be accepted or easily believed; convincing or plausible
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ frequency of the guitar string was measured with a tuner.  
*adj.* tending to reinforce or prolong sound by sympathetic vibration; having a quality that elicits a similar response or feeling
4. Some studies suggest that people's \_\_\_\_\_ can be influenced by their experiences and biases.  
*n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
5. The sound \_\_\_\_\_ well in this theater.  
*v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
6. They \_\_\_\_\_ fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.  
*v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.  
*adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest

ANSWERS: 1. fallacy, 2. believable, 3. resonant, 4. intuitions, 5. resonates, 6. poked, 7. counterintuitive

8. The senior \_\_\_\_\_ worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.
- n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ outfit drew the attention of everyone in the room.
- adj.* bizarre, strange, or unconventional in appearance, behavior, or thought, often in a way that is seen as foreign or exotic; unusual or strikingly different from what is expected or normal
10. In a \_\_\_\_\_ system, the outcome is uncertain and can vary based on chance.
- adj.* characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks

ANSWERS: 8. diplomat, 9. outlandish, 10. probabilistic