Englist.me

Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Bob Langert: The business case for working with your toughest critics | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/bob_langert_the_business_case_for_working_with_your_toughest_critics



Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

revelry

 n. lively and noisy festivities, typically involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment

synonym: festivity, merrymaking, celebration

(1) revelry in the streets, (2) festival revelry

The street was filled with revelry on New Year's Eve.

adversary

a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent

synonym: opponent, enemy, foe

(1) adversary team, (2) political adversary

The boxer's toughest adversary was his fear of losing.

clam

- a marine mollusk that burrows and lives on sand or mud,
 the shell closes with viselike firmness
- (1) giant clam, (2) shuck a clam

The **clam** digs through the sand to a significant depth.

polystyrene

- a lightweight, thermoplastic polymer material used in the manufacture of a wide range of products, including packaging, insulation, and consumer goods
- (1) **polystyrene** foam, (2) **polystyrene** packaging The construction industry often utilizes **polystyrene**

insulation panels to improve building energy efficiency.

upheaval

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.

sentimental

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

synonym: bathetic, drippy, maudlin

(1) in a **sentimental** mood, (2) **sentimental** damage Stop being **sentimental** and always speak the truth.

subside

v. to become less intense or widespread; to sink to a lower level

synonym: decrease, decline, diminish

(1) **subside** an argument, (2) **subside** after a short time The storm **subsided**, leaving the town in peace.

dormant

adj. in a state of temporary inactivity, rest, or sleep; not growing or progressing but capable of doing so under the right circumstances

synonym: inactive, sleeping, quiescent

(1) dormant volcano, (2) dormant account

The disease can remain **dormant** for years before it presents any symptoms.

bastardize

v. to alter, modify, or degrade something in a way that undermines or violates its original integrity or quality; to create a less authentic or less desirable version of something

synonym: corrupt, debase, pervert

(1) **bastardize** a recipe, (2) **bastardize** culture We do not want to **bastardize** the text's original meaning through poor translations.

apprehensive

adj. anxious, worried, or uneasy about something that may happen in the future; having concerns or doubts about something

synonym: anxious, uneasy, nervous

(1) **apprehensive** of danger, (2) **apprehensive** mood She was **apprehensive** about speaking in front of a large crowd.

mustard

 a yellow or brown condiment that tastes spicy made from the seeds of various plants; (adjective) between yellow and brown

synonym: condiment, sauce, spice

mustard leaf, (2) black mustard seed
 He had to endure the mustard gas attack during the war.

pickle

 vegetables or fruit preserved in salty water or vinegar served cold with meat, salads, etc.; informal terms for a difficult situation

synonym: jam, predicament, quagmire

(1) pickle a cucumber, (2) pickle barrel

The **pickle** must have an acidity level high enough to inhibit the growth of bacteria.

grail

- a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable
- synonym: chalice, treasure, quest(1) holy grail, (2) ultimate grail

The search for the **grail** is often used as a metaphor for any difficult quest or task.

spit

- v. to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth synonym: expectorate, saliva, spew
- spit a bullet, (2) spit a mouthful of saliva
 She tried to spit out the gum that she had been chewing.

stark

adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications synonym: crude, blunt, desolate

(1) stark landscape, (2) stark truth

The scenery of the battlefield was **stark** and grey.

chlorine

 a chemical element with the symbol CI and atomic number 17, a greenish-yellow gas that is highly reactive and used in a variety of applications, including as a bleach and disinfectant

synonym: element, greenish-yellow gas, bleach

(1) **chlorine** gas, (2) **chlorine** tablet

Some people are sensitive to the smell of **chlorine** and experience headaches or respiratory irritation.

bleach

 to remove color or stains, whiten, or sterilize using a solution of chemicals or other substances, such as bleach

synonym: whiten, lighten, blanch

(1) bleach stains, (2) bleach hair

I need to **bleach** this shirt to remove the stains.

recycle

v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

synonym: reclaim, reuse, reprocess

(1) **recycle** the cardboard boxes, (2) **recycle** milk packaging into new paper

We largely **recycle** the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.

corrugated

adj. having ridges, grooves, or folds that run parallel to one another, often used to describe materials like cardboard or metal

synonym: ridged, grooved, wrinkled

corrugated panel, (2) corrugated metal roofing
 The corrugated cardboard was sturdy enough to support the

weight of the heavy items being shipped.

napkin

a small piece of cloth or paper used for wiping one's
 mouth and hands while eating; a decorative cloth placed

on a table for formal occasions

synonym: serviette, handkerchief, cloth

(1) paper napkin, (2) linen napkin

I always keep a stack of **napkins** on my desk while I eat to prevent any messes.

speckle

n. a small, irregular spot or marking, often caused by the presence of dust, dirt, or other particles; (verb) to mark or cover something with small, irregular spots or flecks of color

synonym: fleck, spot, dot

(1) speckle pattern, (2) speckle noise

The **speckle** of red on the white porcelain vase made it stand out in the antique shop.

vogue

- the popular or fashionable trend or style of a particular time, especially in clothing, music, or general culture
- synonym: trend, style, fashion
- (1) current **vogue**, (2) follow **vogue** trends

Bellbottoms were in **vogue** during the 1970s but are not as popular today.

crusader

n. a person who is committed to a cause or campaign that they see as being beneficial or righteous; historically, a person who took part in the medieval military campaigns to retake the Holy Land from the Muslims

synonym: advocate, activist, ideologue

(1) anti-corruption **crusader**, (2) a **crusader** for justice The history books are full of tales of legendary **crusaders** who went on epic adventures.

contrarian

 a person who tends to oppose or reject commonly held beliefs or opinions, often for the sake of being different or creating controversy

synonym: dissenter, maverick, rebel

(1) contrarian investor, (2) contrarian philosophy

The politician's **contrarian** stance on immigration has earned him a lot of supporters and detractors alike.

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.

vociferous

adj. characterized by loud, insistent, or attention-grabbing verbal expression

synonym: loud, noisy, clamorous

(1) vociferous protest, (2) vociferous criticism

The **vociferous** fans cheered loudly for their team during the game.

vigilant

adj. keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties synonym: watchful, attentive, alert

(1) **vigilant** watch, (2) **vigilant** about hand-washing
The guards had to remain **vigilant** to ensure the safety of the high-security facility.

liberate

v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

synonym: emancipate, release, set free

(1) **liberate** people from oppression, (2) **liberate** potential The prisoners were **liberated** after the war ended.

mindset

 the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

synonym: attitude, ethos, mentality

(1) flexible **mindset**, (2) the **mindset** in an education system

Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial **mindset** in each individual.

vegan

- a person who does not eat or use any animal products, typically for ethical or environmental reasons
- (1) raw food vegan, (2) vegan lifestyle

The **vegan** diet is based on plant-based foods.

sausage

n. a type of meat product usually made from pork, beef, or poultry, chopped into small pieces, put in a long tube of skin, then cooked or served cold in thin slices

synonym: bratwurst, wurst, frankfurter

(1) beef sausage, (2) German sausage

The mother sliced off a piece of sausage.

pastry

 a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes

synonym: bakery, baked goods, sweet treats

(1) pastry chef, (2) fruit pastry

The chef's specialty is a savory **pastry** with spinach and feta cheese.

gracious

- *adj.* behaving in a kind, polite and generous way *synonym*: cordial, affable, courteous
- (1) in a **gracious** manner, (2) **gracious** hospitality The staff is always helpful and **gracious**.

empathy

 the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients **Empathy** is also necessary to understand history.

slaughterhouse

 a facility where animals are killed and processed for meat

synonym: abattoir, meatpacking plant, butcher shop

(1) **slaughterhouse** operation, (2) **slaughterhouse** facility The smell of the **slaughterhouse** made him feel sick to his stomach.

prod

v. to poke or jab with a pointed object, often to urge or encourage movement or action; to provoke or stimulate someone to take action or respond in a particular way

synonym: poke, jab, nudge

prod him into action, (2) prod him with a stick
 She used a stick to prod the fire and make it burn brighter.

zap

 to strike, destroy, get rid of, or kill something or someone suddenly and with force

synonym: destroy, kill, exterminate

(1) **zap** a huge target, (2) **zap** bar code

They provided allies with powerful weapons that could **zap** the enemy from thousands of miles away.

appall

v. to shock or disgust; to fill with dismay synonym: shock, disgust, dismay

(1) appall the tourists, (2) appall me

The news of the massacre **appalled** the entire nation.

corral

 a pen or enclosure for livestock, especially cattle or horses; an area surrounded by a fence

synonym: pen, enclosure, yard

(1) corral fence, (2) enclose in a corral

The farmer used a high **corral** to keep the cattle from wandering off.

deforestation

- n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area synonym: clear-cutting, desertification
- (1) **deforestation** of the tropics, (2) the lowest **deforestation** rate

Large-scale **deforestation** also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.

miraculous

adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpectedsynonym: amazing, astonishing, awesome

(1) a miraculous encounter, (2) go through a miraculous

change

He made a **miraculous** recovery.

pristine

adj. new and completely free from dirt or contamination synonym: chaste, pure, immaculate

(1) **pristine** beach, (2) maintain the **pristine** condition It is terrific to camp in **pristine** nature.

human-made

adj. created or produced by humans; artificial synonym: artificial, unnatural, manufactured

(1) **human-made** climate change, (2) the worst **human-made** disaster

The bridge is a **human-made** structure and was built to span the river.

blatant

adj. completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately;characterized by shameless or brazen behavior

synonym: obvious, flagrant, conspicuous

(1) **blatant** hypocrisy, (2) **blatant** disregard Fact-checkers quickly exposed the politician's **blatant** lie.

rainforest

- a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
- (1) **rainforest** destruction, (2) tropical **rainforest**The destruction of the **rainforest** is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.

moratorium

 a temporary suspension or delay of an activity or process, often as a result of an official agreement or decision

synonym: suspension, pause, halt

(1) a temporary **moratorium** on evictions, (2) impose **moratorium**

The council has decided to impose a **moratorium** on building new houses in the area.

commonplace

adj. occurring very often; lacking originality or interest synonym: ordinary, routine, mundane

(1) become a **commonplace** sight, (2) **commonplace** event

Forgetting someone's name is a **commonplace** occurrence.

batter

- v. to hit something or someone repeatedly with much force; (noun, baseball) a ballplayer who is battingsynonym: beat, pound, strike
- (1) **batter** the eggs, (2) the **batter's** box He got so angry that he **battered** the door down.

Session 2: Spelling

1.	vocus criticism	adj.	characterized by loud, insistent, or attention-grabbing verbal expression
2.	pie a cucumber	n.	vegetables or fruit preserved in salty water or vinegar served cold with meat, salads, etc.; informal terms for a difficult situation
3.	blt disregard	adj.	completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior
4.	lite potential	<i>v</i> .	to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
5.	basze culture	v.	to alter, modify, or degrade something in a way that undermines or violates its original integrity or quality; to create a less authentic or less desirable version of something
6.	lite people from oppression	v.	to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
7.	spe pattern	n.	a small, irregular spot or marking, often caused by the presence of dust, dirt, or other particles; (verb) to mark or cover something with small, irregular spots or flecks of color
8.	cored metal roofing	adj.	having ridges, grooves, or folds that run parallel to one another, often used to describe materials like cardboard or

ANSWERS: 1. vociferous, 2. pickle, 3. blatant, 4. liberate, 5. bastardize, 6. liberate, 7. speckle, 8. corrugated

metal

14. ap___I me

15. mu____d leaf

16. bl___t hypocrisy

v. to shock or disgust; to fill with dismay

disinfectant

 a yellow or brown condiment that tastes spicy made from the seeds of various plants; (adjective) between yellow and brown

 adj. completely obvious, often offensively or inappropriately; characterized by shameless or brazen behavior

ANSWERS: 9. bastardize, 10. sentimental, 11. polystyrene, 12. vegan, 13. chlorine, 14. appall, 15. mustard, 16. blatant

17.	a crer for justice	n.	a person who is committed to a cause or campaign that they see as being beneficial or righteous; historically, a person who took part in the medieval military campaigns to retake the Holy Land from the Muslims
18.	appive of danger	adj.	anxious, worried, or uneasy about something that may happen in the future; having concerns or doubts about something
19.	blh stains	ν.	to remove color or stains, whiten, or sterilize using a solution of chemicals or other substances, such as bleach
20.	linen nan	n.	a small piece of cloth or paper used for wiping one's mouth and hands while eating; a decorative cloth placed on a table for formal occasions
21.	indus student	adj.	hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
22.	holy grl	n.	a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable
23.	grus hospitality	adj.	behaving in a kind, polite and generous way
24.	pie barrel	n.	vegetables or fruit preserved in salty water or vinegar served cold with meat, salads, etc.; informal terms for a difficult situation
25.	the bar's box	v.	to hit something or someone repeatedly with much force; (noun, baseball) a ballplayer who is batting

ANSWERS: 17. crusader, 18. apprehensive, 19. bleach, 20. napkin, 21. industrious, 22. grail, 23. gracious, 24. pickle, 25. batter

26.	pay chef	n.	a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes
27.	ree the cardboard boxes	<i>v</i> .	to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
28.	conan philosophy	n.	a person who tends to oppose or reject commonly held beliefs or opinions, often for the sake of being different or creating controversy
29.	the mit in an education system	n.	the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
30.	conan investor	n.	a person who tends to oppose or reject commonly held beliefs or opinions, often for the sake of being different or creating controversy
31.	slause operation	n.	a facility where animals are killed and processed for meat
32.	comce event	adj.	occurring very often; lacking originality or interest
33.	bar the eggs	<i>v</i> .	to hit something or someone repeatedly with much force; (noun, baseball) a ballplayer who is batting
34.	polne packaging	n.	a lightweight, thermoplastic polymer material used in the manufacture of a wide range of products, including packaging, insulation, and consumer goods

ANSWERS: 26. pastry, 27. recycle, 28. contrarian, 29. mindset, 30. contrarian, 31. slaughterhouse, 32. commonplace, 33. batter, 34. polystyrene

ANSWERS: 35. prod, 36. zap, 37. human-made, 38. grail, 39. empathy, 40. pristine, 41. corrugated, 42. commonplace, 43. sausage, 44. chlorine

disinfectant

45. festival re____y lively and noisy festivities, typically n. involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment 46. re___y in the streets lively and noisy festivities, typically n. involving drinking, dancing, and general merrymaking; a celebration marked by indulgence and enjoyment great change, disruption, or 47. the big up___al of my life disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation 48. do____t volcano adj. in a state of temporary inactivity, rest, or sleep; not growing or progressing but capable of doing so under the right circumstances adj. keeping careful watch for possible 49. vi nt watch danger or difficulties 50. p d him with a stick to poke or jab with a pointed object, ν. often to urge or encourage movement or action; to provoke or stimulate someone to take action or respond in a particular way a type of meat product usually made 51. beef sa e from pork, beef, or poultry, chopped into small pieces, put in a long tube of skin, then cooked or served cold in thin slices 52. s t a mouthful of saliva to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth a person who does not eat or use any 53. raw food ve__n n.

ANSWERS: 45. revelry, 46. revelry, 47. upheaval, 48. dormant, 49. vigilant, 50. prod, 51. sausage, 52. spit, 53. vegan

animal products, typically for ethical or

environmental reasons

54.	paper nan	n.	a small piece of cloth or paper used for wiping one's mouth and hands while eating; a decorative cloth placed on a table for formal occasions
55.	black mud seed	n.	a yellow or brown condiment that tastes spicy made from the seeds of various plants; (adjective) between yellow and brown
56.	z_p a huge target	v.	to strike, destroy, get rid of, or kill something or someone suddenly and with force
57.	go through a mirus change	adj.	very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
58.	giant cm	n.	a marine mollusk that burrows and lives on sand or mud, the shell closes with viselike firmness
59.	raist destruction	n.	a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
60.	ree milk packaging into new paper	v.	to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
61.	political adry	n.	a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent
62.	flexible mit	n.	the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
63.	spe noise	n.	a small, irregular spot or marking, often caused by the presence of dust, dirt, or other particles; (verb) to mark or cover something with small, irregular spots or flecks of color

ANSWERS: 54. napkin, 55. mustard, 56. zap, 57. miraculous, 58. clam, 59. rainforest, 60. recycle, 61. adversary, 62. mindset, 63. speckle

64. s tabullet 65. follow vo e trends 66. a mir____us encounter 67. voc____us protest 68. ad____ry team 69. vi nt about hand-washing 70. full of em___y 71. su e an argument 72. bl h hair 73. hum de climate change 74. enclose in a co___l

75. current vo__e

- v. to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth
- n. the popular or fashionable trend or style of a particular time, especially in clothing, music, or general culture
- adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
- adj. characterized by loud, insistent, or attention-grabbing verbal expression
- a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent
- adj. keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties
- the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
- to become less intense or widespread;
 to sink to a lower level
- v. to remove color or stains, whiten, or sterilize using a solution of chemicals or other substances, such as bleach
- adj. created or produced by humans; artificial
- a pen or enclosure for livestock,
 especially cattle or horses; an area surrounded by a fence
- the popular or fashionable trend or style of a particular time, especially in clothing, music, or general culture

ANSWERS: 64. spit, 65. vogue, 66. miraculous, 67. vociferous, 68. adversary, 69. vigilant, 70. empathy, 71. subside, 72. bleach, 73. human-made, 74. corral, 75. vogue

76.	coI fence	n.	a pen or enclosure for livestock, especially cattle or horses; an area surrounded by a fence
77.	tropical raist	n.	a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
78.	upal of society	n.	great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation
79.	stk landscape	adj.	empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications
80.	in a grus manner	adj.	behaving in a kind, polite and generous way
81.	dot account	adj.	in a state of temporary inactivity, rest, o sleep; not growing or progressing but capable of doing so under the right circumstances
82.	sue after a short time	<i>v</i> .	to become less intense or widespread; to sink to a lower level
83.	defion of the tropics	n.	the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
84.	apI the tourists	<i>v</i> .	to shock or disgust; to fill with dismay
85.	impose morum	n.	a temporary suspension or delay of an activity or process, often as a result of an official agreement or decision
86.	fruit pay	n.	a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes

or

ANSWERS: 76. corral, 77. rainforest, 78. upheaval, 79. stark, 80. gracious, 81. dormant, 82. subside, 83. deforestation, 84. appall, 85. moratorium, 86. pastry

ANSWERS: 87. deforestation, 88. industrious, 89. apprehensive, 90. moratorium, 91. sentimental, 92. crusader, 93. pristine, 94. clam, 95. slaughterhouse, 96. stark

a facility where animals are killed and

adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of

processed for meat

any qualifications

95. sla____use facility

96. st k truth

Vocab-Builder Ref from	"Bob Langert: The business of	case for working with y	our toughest critics	TED Talk" (48 words)
ANIONATEDO				
ANSWERS:				

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1.	Bellbottoms were in during the 1970s but are not as popular today.
n.	the popular or fashionable trend or style of a particular time, especially in clothing, music, or general culture
2.	They provided allies with powerful weapons that could the enemy from thousands of miles away.
<i>v</i> .	to strike, destroy, get rid of, or kill something or someone suddenly and with force
3.	The must have an acidity level high enough to inhibit the growth of bacteria.
n.	vegetables or fruit preserved in salty water or vinegar served cold with meat, salads, etc.; informal terms for a difficult situation
4.	He had to endure the gas attack during the war.
n.	a yellow or brown condiment that tastes spicy made from the seeds of various plants; (adjective) between yellow and brown
5.	We largely the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.
<i>v</i> .	to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
6.	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
7.	The search for the is often used as a metaphor for any difficult quest or task.
n.	a sacred or highly prized object, often associated with a quest or search for something elusive or unattainable

ANSWERS: 1. vogue, 2. zap, 3. pickle, 4. mustard, 5. recycle, 6. upheaval, 7. grail

ANSWERS: 46. blatant, 47. vigilant, 48. napkins