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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Judith Jamison and members of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater: Revelations from a lifetime of dance | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/judith\\_jamison\\_and\\_members\\_of\\_the\\_alvin\\_ailey\\_american\\_dance\\_theater\\_revelations\\_from\\_a\\_lifetime\\_of\\_dance](https://www.ted.com/talks/judith_jamison_and_members_of_the_alvin_ailey_american_dance_theater_revelations_from_a_lifetime_of_dance)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### wade

v. to walk through water that is not deep enough to swim in; to struggle or proceed slowly and laboriously through something, such as a difficult situation or a crowd of people

*synonym* : paddle, trudge, slosh

(1) **wade** down a street, (2) **wade** through paperwork

I had to **wade** through the knee-deep water to get to the other side of the river.

### emeritus

*adj.* describing a person who has retired from a position or role but retains their former title or rank as an honorary status

*synonym* : retired, former, senior

(1) **emeritus** Pope, (2) chairperson **emeritus**

The **emeritus** professor shared his many years of knowledge with the new students.

### baptize

v. to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)

*synonym* : purify, immerse

(1) **baptize** a baby, (2) **baptize** with water  
The priest **baptized** my father on his deathbed.

## choreograph

*v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music  
(1) **choreograph** a stage performance, (2) exquisitely  
**choreographed**  
He had **choreographed** the dance in this play himself.

## armpit

*n.* the hollow under the arm where it joins the shoulder  
*synonym*: underarm, axilla  
(1) hair of the **armpits**, (2) **armpit** area  
This stick will deodorize your **armpits**.

## dung

*n.* solid waste from animals, especially from large animals such as cattle and horses; (verb) to fertilize or dress with animals' excrement  
*synonym*: excrement, droppings, manure  
(1) ball of **dung**, (2) **dung** the land  
You can see the horse **dung** on the country road.

## cowhand

*n.* a person who works on a ranch or farm and is responsible for herding and caring for cows or other livestock, also known as a cowboy or cowgirl  
*synonym*: cowboy, rancher, cattle driver  
(1) **cowhand** hat, (2) hardworking **cowhand**  
A skilled **cowhand** can recognize signs of distress or disease in the herd quickly.

## applause

*n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together  
*synonym*: clapping, cheering, acclaim  
(1) round of **applause**, (2) earn **applause**  
The **applause** burst from the audience.

## audition

*n.* a performance or test given by an actor, musician, or other performers to demonstrate their abilities and suitability for a particular role or position

*synonym* : tryout, test

(1) music **audition**, (2) dance **audition**

I have an **audition** for a role in a play tomorrow.

## **dreadful**

*adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear

*synonym* : terrible, horrible, awful

(1) **dreadful** accident, (2) **dreadful** news

The conditions of the prison were **dreadful** and inhumane.

## **panoply**

*n.* a complete or impressive array or collection of things; a splendid or impressive display of objects or people presented together

*synonym* : display, collection, array

(1) **panoply** of colors, (2) **panoply** of options

The museum had a **panoply** of artifacts from different historical periods.

## **mantra**

*n.* a word or phrase, often repeated, that is used as a focus for the mind during meditation

*synonym* : hymn, chant, phrase

(1) campaign **mantra**, (2) chant the **mantra** of structural reform

She repeated her personal **mantra** to herself to stay motivated.

## **strait**

*n.* a narrow stretch of water or sea connecting two larger bodies of water or seas

*synonym* : narrows, channel, passage

(1) **strait** passage, (2) **strait** channel

The ship navigated through the **strait** with great care.

## **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.

## nonverbal

*adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language

*synonym* : silent, mute, unspoken

(1) **nonverbal** communication, (2) **nonverbal** signal

Many communication skills rely on **nonverbal** cues such as body language and facial expressions.

## rev

*n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

*synonym* : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

## muse

*n.* a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists

*synonym* : source of inspiration, minstrel, versifier

(1) **muse** inspiration, (2) creative **muse**

She gazed out the window, deep in thought, as if waiting for her **muse** to strike.

## dedicate

*v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

*synonym* : consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

## rehearsal

*n.* a practice session, usually for a performance or presentation, during which people prepare and fine-tune their performance, often with the help of feedback from others; the act of rehearsing

*synonym* :

practice, run-through, drill

(1) dress **rehearsal**, (2) music **rehearsal**

The theater company had its final **rehearsal** before opening night.

## **intrude**

*v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something

*synonym*: impose, obtrude, interlope

(1) **intrude** on his personal space, (2) **intrude** on other people's conversations

The loud music from the party next door **intruded** into my peaceful evening at home.

## **tactile**

*adj.* relating to the sense of touch; tangible or perceptible through the sense of touch

*synonym*: touchable, tangible, palpable

(1) **tactile** stimulation, (2) **tactile** feedback

The **tactile** sensation of the fabric was soft and smooth to the touch.

## **sect**

*n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

*synonym*: group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

## **elevate**

*v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

*synonym*: lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

## **misunderstand**

*v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way  
*synonym*: misinterpret, misperceive, misapprehend

(1) **misunderstand** each other, (2) **misunderstand** entirely about her

You should not **misunderstand** the meaning of freedom.

## **wan**

*adj.* looking pale or sickly; lacking vitality or energy  
*synonym*: pale, pallid, ashen

(1) **wan** light, (2) a **wan** smile

His **wan** complexion showed that he was feeling very ill.

## **falcon**

*n.* a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight

*synonym*: hawk, eagle, kestrel

(1) **falcon** feathers, (2) peregrine **falcon**

The **falcon's** keen eyesight makes it an excellent hunter.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. ex\_\_\_e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
2. fa\_\_\_n feathers *n.* a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight
3. mis\_\_\_\_\_and each other *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
4. round of ap\_\_\_\_\_se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
5. w\_\_e through paperwork *v.* to walk through water that is not deep enough to swim in; to struggle or proceed slowly and laboriously through something, such as a difficult situation or a crowd of people
6. ex\_\_\_e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
7. w\_n light *adj.* looking pale or sickly; lacking vitality or energy
8. chant the ma\_\_\_a of structural reform *n.* a word or phrase, often repeated, that is used as a focus for the mind during meditation
9. dr\_\_\_\_\_ul news *adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear
10. w\_\_e down a street *v.* to walk through water that is not deep enough to swim in; to struggle or proceed slowly and laboriously through something, such as a difficult situation or a crowd of people

ANSWERS: 1. excite, 2. falcon, 3. misunderstand, 4. applause, 5. wade, 6. excite, 7. wan, 8. mantra, 9. dreadful, 10. wade

11. dance au\_\_\_\_on *n.* a performance or test given by an actor, musician, or other performers to demonstrate their abilities and suitability for a particular role or position
12. de\_\_\_\_te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
13. st\_\_\_\_t channel *n.* a narrow stretch of water or sea connecting two larger bodies of water or seas
14. in\_\_\_\_e on his personal space *v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something
15. exquisitely cho\_\_\_\_phed *v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
16. ta\_\_\_\_e feedback *adj.* relating to the sense of touch; tangible or perceptible through the sense of touch
17. d\_\_g the land *n.* solid waste from animals, especially from large animals such as cattle and horses; (verb) to fertilize or dress with animals' excrement
18. mis\_\_\_\_and entirely about her *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
19. s\_\_t beliefs *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

ANSWERS: 11. audition, 12. dedicate, 13. strait, 14. intrude, 15. choreograph, 16. tactile, 17. dung, 18. misunderstand, 19. sect



20. dr\_\_\_\_ul accident *adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear
21. campaign ma\_\_\_\_a *n.* a word or phrase, often repeated, that is used as a focus for the mind during meditation
22. el\_\_\_\_e educational standards *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
23. pa\_\_\_\_y of colors *n.* a complete or impressive array or collection of things; a splendid or impressive display of objects or people presented together
24. ball of d\_\_g *n.* solid waste from animals, especially from large animals such as cattle and horses; (verb) to fertilize or dress with animals' excrement
25. secret s\_\_t *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
26. ba\_\_\_\_e with water *v.* to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)
27. hair of the ar\_\_\_\_ts *n.* the hollow under the arm where it joins the shoulder
28. earn ap\_\_\_\_se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
29. a w\_n smile *adj.* looking pale or sickly; lacking vitality or energy

ANSWERS: 20. dreadful, 21. mantra, 22. elevate, 23. panoply, 24. dung, 25. sect, 26. baptize, 27. armpit, 28. applause, 29. wan

30. in\_\_\_\_\_e on other people's conversations
31. chairperson em\_\_\_\_\_us
32. no\_\_\_\_\_al communication
33. hardworking co\_\_\_\_\_d
34. de\_\_\_\_\_te a chapter to the subject
35. em\_\_\_\_\_us Pope
36. cho\_\_\_\_\_ph a stage performance
37. music re\_\_\_\_\_al
- v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something
- adj.* describing a person who has retired from a position or role but retains their former title or rank as an honorary status
- adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language
- n.* a person who works on a ranch or farm and is responsible for herding and caring for cows or other livestock, also known as a cowboy or cowgirl
- v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
- adj.* describing a person who has retired from a position or role but retains their former title or rank as an honorary status
- v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
- n.* a practice session, usually for a performance or presentation, during which people prepare and fine-tune their performance, often with the help of feedback from others; the act of rehearsing

ANSWERS: 30. intrude, 31. emeritus, 32. nonverbal, 33. cowhand, 34. dedicate, 35. emeritus, 36. choreograph, 37. rehearsal

38. ta\_\_\_\_\_e stimulation *adj.* relating to the sense of touch; tangible or perceptible through the sense of touch
39. ar\_\_\_\_t area *n.* the hollow under the arm where it joins the shoulder
40. pa\_\_\_\_\_y of options *n.* a complete or impressive array or collection of things; a splendid or impressive display of objects or people presented together
41. music au\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* a performance or test given by an actor, musician, or other performers to demonstrate their abilities and suitability for a particular role or position
42. peregrine fa\_\_\_\_n *n.* a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight
43. dress re\_\_\_\_\_al *n.* a practice session, usually for a performance or presentation, during which people prepare and fine-tune their performance, often with the help of feedback from others; the act of rehearsing
44. ba\_\_\_\_\_e a baby *v.* to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)
45. low-r\_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 38. tactile, 39. armpit, 40. panoply, 41. audition, 42. falcon, 43. rehearsal, 44. baptize, 45. rev

46. st\_\_t passage *n.* a narrow stretch of water or sea connecting two larger bodies of water or seas
47. co\_\_\_\_\_d hat *n.* a person who works on a ranch or farm and is responsible for herding and caring for cows or other livestock, also known as a cowboy or cowgirl
48. no\_\_\_\_\_al signal *adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language
49. creative m\_\_e *n.* a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists
50. m\_\_e inspiration *n.* a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists
51. el\_\_\_\_\_e a close relationship *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
52. r\_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 46. strait, 47. cowhand, 48. nonverbal, 49. muse, 50. muse, 51. elevate, 52. rev

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Many communication skills rely on \_\_\_\_\_ cues such as body language and facial expressions.

*adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language

2. The conditions of the prison were \_\_\_\_\_ and inhumane.

*adj.* very bad, unpleasant, or causing fear

3. The news of her promotion \_\_\_\_\_ her.

*v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

4. The theater company had its final \_\_\_\_\_ before opening night.

*n.* a practice session, usually for a performance or presentation, during which people prepare and fine-tune their performance, often with the help of feedback from others; the act of rehearsing

5. The \_\_\_\_\_ professor shared his many years of knowledge with the new students.

*adj.* describing a person who has retired from a position or role but retains their former title or rank as an honorary status

6. I had to \_\_\_\_\_ through the knee-deep water to get to the other side of the river.

*v.* to walk through water that is not deep enough to swim in; to struggle or proceed slowly and laboriously through something, such as a difficult situation or a crowd of people

7. He had \_\_\_\_\_ the dance in this play himself.

*v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music

ANSWERS: 1. nonverbal, 2. dreadful, 3. excited, 4. rehearsal, 5. emeritus, 6. wade, 7. choreographed

8. Eating food in a hurry \_\_\_\_\_ blood glucose levels.

- v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

9. His \_\_\_ complexion showed that he was feeling very ill.

- adj.* looking pale or sickly; lacking vitality or energy

10. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

11. He \_\_\_\_\_ his life to helping others.

- v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

12. You can see the horse \_\_\_\_\_ on the country road.

- n.* solid waste from animals, especially from large animals such as cattle and horses; (verb) to fertilize or dress with animals' excrement

13. She gazed out the window, deep in thought, as if waiting for her \_\_\_\_\_ to strike.

- n.* a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists

14. I have an \_\_\_\_\_ for a role in a play tomorrow.

- n.* a performance or test given by an actor, musician, or other performers to demonstrate their abilities and suitability for a particular role or position

15. The \_\_\_\_\_ sensation of the fabric was soft and smooth to the touch.

- adj.* relating to the sense of touch; tangible or perceptible through the sense of touch

ANSWERS: 8. elevates, 9. wan, 10. rev, 11. dedicated, 12. dung, 13. muse, 14. audition, 15. tactile

16. This stick will deodorize your \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* the hollow under the arm where it joins the shoulder
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ burst from the audience.
- n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
18. The \_\_\_\_\_ keen eyesight makes it an excellent hunter.
- n.* a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight
19. A skilled \_\_\_\_\_ can recognize signs of distress or disease in the herd quickly.
- n.* a person who works on a ranch or farm and is responsible for herding and caring for cows or other livestock, also known as a cowboy or cowgirl
20. She repeated her personal \_\_\_\_\_ to herself to stay motivated.
- n.* a word or phrase, often repeated, that is used as a focus for the mind during meditation
21. The priest \_\_\_\_\_ my father on his deathbed.
- v.* to make someone officially a member of the Christian Church by baptism (= a form of Christian ritual purification)
22. The ship navigated through the \_\_\_\_\_ with great care.
- n.* a narrow stretch of water or sea connecting two larger bodies of water or seas
23. You should not \_\_\_\_\_ the meaning of freedom.
- v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
24. The museum had a \_\_\_\_\_ of artifacts from different historical periods.
- n.* a complete or impressive array or collection of things; a splendid or impressive display of objects or people presented together

ANSWERS: 16. armpits, 17. applause, 18. falcon's, 19. cowhand, 20. mantra, 21. baptized, 22. strait, 23. misunderstand, 24. panoply

25. The loud music from the party next door \_\_\_\_\_ into my peaceful evening at home.

- v.* to enter or to be present in a place or situation where one is not wanted or allowed; to interrupt or disturb someone or something

26. The minority \_\_\_\_\_ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

- n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

ANSWERS: 25. intruded, 26. sect