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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Lonneke Gordijn: Nature, art and magical blocks of flying concrete | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/lonneke\\_gordijn\\_nature\\_art\\_and\\_magical\\_blocks\\_of\\_flying\\_concrete](https://www.ted.com/talks/lonneke_gordijn_nature_art_and_magical_blocks_of_flying_concrete)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### petal

*n.* one of the separate, usually colored, segments of a flower that produce its shape and are often found arranged in a circle around the reproductive parts

*synonym* : blossom, flower, bloom

(1) **petal** shape, (2) rose **petal**

The botany field is concerned with studying the structure of plant **petals**.

### blossom

*n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success

*synonym* : flower, bloom, bud

(1) apple **blossom**, (2) **blossom** garden

The cherry **blossom** trees in the park were in full bloom, creating a beautiful sight.

### pollinate

*v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others

*synonym* : fertilize, propagate

(1) **pollinate** plants, (2) **pollinate** fruit trees

Without bees to **pollinate** the flowers, many crops would not exist.

## visceral

*adj.* relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses

*synonym*: instinctive, intuitive, gut

(1) **visceral** organ, (2) **visceral** fear

After watching the horror movie, she had a **visceral** reaction and couldn't sleep all night.

## cofounder

*n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business

(1) **cofounder** of the university, (2) late **cofounder**

He is the **cofounder** and chairman of this tech company.

## impractical

*adj.* not sensible or useful for practical purposes; not likely to be effective in achieving an intended outcome

*synonym*: impracticable, unrealizable, unfeasible

(1) **impractical** idea, (2) **impractical** solution

It is **impractical** to expect everyone to work for free.

## descend

*v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

*synonym*: dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator

She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

## seamstress

*n.* a woman who sews, especially one who earns her living by sewing

*synonym*: sewer, needleworker, dressmaker

(1) **seamstress** shop, (2) skilled **seamstress**

My grandmother is a talented **seamstress** and can sew anything from curtains to dresses.

## 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.

## murmur

*v.* to say something very quietly; to complain about somebody or something under one's breath

*synonym*: burble, gurgle, mutter

(1) **murmur** at low wages, (2) **murmur** a greeting

He always **murmurs** at the ill-treatment.

## drone

*n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

*synonym*: hum, whirr, idler

(1) **drone** flight, (2) the speaker's **drone**

He heard a **drone** of sirens roar from the neighboring town.

## quadcopter

*n.* a type of drone that is driven by four rotors, which enable vertical takeoff and landing, hovering, and agile movement in multiple directions

*synonym*: drone, multicopter, aerial vehicle

(1) **quadcopter** camera, (2) DIY **quadcopter** kit

The **quadcopter** drone can take aerial photographs from a great height.

## 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.

## 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.

## swarm

*n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

*synonym* : horde, hive, throng

(1) a **swarm** of mosquitoes, (2) locust **swarm**

A **swarm** of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.

## controllable

*adj.* able to be controlled or directed

*synonym* : manageable, governable, submissive

(1) computer- **controllable**, (2) **controllable** aircraft

The new software is much more **controllable** and user-friendly.

## pave

*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

*synonym* : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

## numb

*adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

*synonym* : dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

## disrupt

*v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

*synonym* : interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

## frightening

*adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

*synonym* : scary, terrifying, alarming

(1) cast **frightening** eyes, (2) **frightening** experience

The news of the pandemic was a **frightening** reminder of the fragility of human health.

### sentient

*adj.* having the ability to perceive or feel things, particularly through sense perception like touch or sight, especially at higher levels of intelligence and consciousness

*synonym*: conscious, aware, perceptive

(1) **sentient** beings, (2) **sentient** robots

Animals such as dolphins and elephants are highly **sentient** and intelligent creatures.

### cede

*v.* to give up, surrender, or transfer possession or control of something, especially territory, power, or authority

*synonym*: surrender, relinquish, yield

(1) **cede** power, (2) **cede** custody of the kids

The landowner agreed to **cede** part of his property to the government for the public good.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. di____t a well-ordered condition | <i>v.</i> to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance            |
| 2. a n__b mind                      | <i>adj.</i> unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity   |
| 3. rose pe__l                       | <i>n.</i> one of the separate, usually colored, segments of a flower that produce its shape and are often found arranged in a circle around the reproductive parts |
| 4. ind_____us worker                | <i>adj.</i> hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort  |
| 5. computer-con_____ble             | <i>adj.</i> able to be controlled or directed  |
| 6. cast fri_____ng eyes             | <i>adj.</i> causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming   |
| 7. locust sw__m                     | <i>n.</i> a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground  |
| 8. sea_____ss shop                  | <i>n.</i> a woman who sews, especially one who earns her living by sewing  |
| 9. late co_____er                   | <i>n.</i> one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business   |
| 10. skilled sea_____ss              | <i>n.</i> a woman who sews, especially one who earns her living by sewing  |
| 11. co_____er of the university     | <i>n.</i> one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business   |

ANSWERS: 1. disrupt, 2. numb, 3. petal, 4. industrious, 5. controllable, 6. frightening, 7. swarm, 8. seamstress, 9. cofounder, 10. seamstress, 11. cofounder

12. fri\_\_\_\_\_ng experience      *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
13. po\_\_\_\_\_te plants      *v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
14. exquisitely cho\_\_\_\_\_phed      *v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
15. dr\_\_e flight      *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
16. se\_\_\_\_\_nt robots      *adj.* having the ability to perceive or feel things, particularly through sense perception like touch or sight, especially at higher levels of intelligence and consciousness
17. p\_\_e a new path      *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
18. imp\_\_\_\_\_al solution      *adj.* not sensible or useful for practical purposes; not likely to be effective in achieving an intended outcome
19. n\_\_b with cold      *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
20. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student      *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 12. frightening, 13. pollinate, 14. choreograph, 15. drone, 16. sentient, 17. pave, 18. impractical, 19. numb, 20. industrious

21. pe\_\_l shape *n.* one of the separate, usually colored, segments of a flower that produce its shape and are often found arranged in a circle around the reproductive parts
22. the speaker's dr\_\_e *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
23. vi\_\_\_\_al organ *adj.* relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
24. de\_\_\_\_d a steep hill *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
25. c\_\_e custody of the kids *v.* to give up, surrender, or transfer possession or control of something, especially territory, power, or authority
26. bl\_\_\_\_m garden *n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success
27. imp\_\_\_\_al idea *adj.* not sensible or useful for practical purposes; not likely to be effective in achieving an intended outcome
28. ex\_\_e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

ANSWERS: 21. petal, 22. drone, 23. visceral, 24. descend, 25. cede, 26. blossom, 27. impractical, 28. excite



29. mu\_\_\_r at low wages      *v.* to say something very quietly; to complain about somebody or something under one's breath
30. po\_\_\_\_\_te fruit trees      *v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
31. con\_\_\_\_\_ble aircraft      *adj.* able to be controlled or directed
32. di\_\_\_\_\_t sleep      *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
33. apple bl\_\_\_\_\_m      *n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success
34. se\_\_\_\_\_nt beings      *adj.* having the ability to perceive or feel things, particularly through sense perception like touch or sight, especially at higher levels of intelligence and consciousness
35. a sw\_\_m of mosquitoes      *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
36. c\_\_e power      *v.* to give up, surrender, or transfer possession or control of something, especially territory, power, or authority

ANSWERS: 29. murmur, 30. pollinate, 31. controllable, 32. disrupt, 33. blossom, 34. sentient, 35. swarm, 36. cede

37. de\_\_\_\_d by elevator      *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
38. mu\_\_\_r a greeting      *v.* to say something very quietly; to complain about somebody or something under one's breath
39. qua\_\_\_\_\_er camera      *n.* a type of drone that is driven by four rotors, which enable vertical takeoff and landing, hovering, and agile movement in multiple directions
40. DIY qua\_\_\_\_\_er kit      *n.* a type of drone that is driven by four rotors, which enable vertical takeoff and landing, hovering, and agile movement in multiple directions
41. ex\_\_\_e the crowd      *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
42. p\_\_e a smoother road      *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
43. vi\_\_\_\_\_al fear      *adj.* relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
44. cho\_\_\_\_\_ph a stage performance      *v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music

ANSWERS: 37. descend, 38. murmur, 39. quadcopter, 40. quadcopter, 41. excite, 42. pave, 43. visceral, 44. choreograph

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I'm so sorry to \_\_\_\_\_ you when you're pretty busy.
  - v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
  
2. After watching the horror movie, she had a \_\_\_\_\_ reaction and couldn't sleep all night.
  - adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
  
3. The landowner agreed to \_\_\_\_\_ part of his property to the government for the public good.
  - v. to give up, surrender, or transfer possession or control of something, especially territory, power, or authority
  
4. My grandmother is a talented \_\_\_\_\_ and can sew anything from curtains to dresses.
  - n. a woman who sews, especially one who earns her living by sewing
  
5. He had \_\_\_\_\_ the dance in this play himself.
  - v. to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
  
6. He always \_\_\_\_\_ at the ill-treatment.
  - v. to say something very quietly; to complain about somebody or something under one's breath
  
7. He heard a \_\_\_\_\_ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
  - n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

ANSWERS: 1. disrupt, 2. visceral, 3. cede, 4. seamstress, 5. choreographed, 6. murmurs, 7. drone

8. The new software is much more \_\_\_\_\_ and user-friendly.  
*adj.* able to be controlled or directed
9. A \_\_\_\_\_ of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.  
*n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ drone can take aerial photographs from a great height.  
*n.* a type of drone that is driven by four rotors, which enable vertical takeoff and landing, hovering, and agile movement in multiple directions
11. The news of the pandemic was a \_\_\_\_\_ reminder of the fragility of human health.  
*adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
12. Without bees to \_\_\_\_\_ the flowers, many crops would not exist.  
*v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
13. Animals such as dolphins and elephants are highly \_\_\_\_\_ and intelligent creatures.  
*adj.* having the ability to perceive or feel things, particularly through sense perception like touch or sight, especially at higher levels of intelligence and consciousness
14. She was \_\_\_\_\_ from an old Italian noble family.  
*v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

ANSWERS: 8. controllable, 9. swarm, 10. quadcopter, 11. frightening, 12. pollinate, 13. sentient, 14. descended

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

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

16. The cherry \_\_\_\_\_ trees in the park were in full bloom, creating a beautiful sight.

*n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success

17. My left arm became \_\_\_\_\_.

*adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

18. They \_\_\_\_\_ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

19. The botany field is concerned with studying the structure of plant \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* one of the separate, usually colored, segments of a flower that produce its shape and are often found arranged in a circle around the reproductive parts

20. It is \_\_\_\_\_ to expect everyone to work for free.

*adj.* not sensible or useful for practical purposes; not likely to be effective in achieving an intended outcome

21. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.

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

22. He is the \_\_\_\_\_ and chairman of this tech company.

*n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business

ANSWERS: 15. excited, 16. blossom, 17. numb, 18. paved, 19. petals, 20. impractical, 21. industrious, 22. cofounder

ANSWERS: