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# Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Iseult Gillespie: Why is this painting so shocking? |

TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/iseult\_gillespie\_why\_is\_this

\_painting\_so\_shocking



# **Advanced Words Only**

#### **IMPORTANT**

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# **Session 1: Word List**

#### fascist

adj. relating to or supporting fascism, which is a political ideology that emphasizes authoritarian government, nationalism, and suppression of political opposition and individual liberties

synonym: authoritarian, dictatorial, totalitarian

(1) fascist propaganda, (2) fascist policies

The regime was accused of being **fascist** for their oppressive tactics.

# casualty

n. a person who has been killed or injured in a war, accident, or other disasters; a victim

synonym: victim, injured, fatality

(1) civilian casualty, (2) military casualty

Unfortunately, the driver was the only **casualty** in the car accident.

### frenzied

adj. wild, excited, or uncontrolled, often as a result of strong emotions such as anger, fear, or excitement

synonym: frantic, feverish, excited

(1) frenzied buying, (2) frenzied excitement

The **frenzied** crowd rushed towards the stage at the music festival.

#### mural

adj. a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface

synonym: wall painting, fresco, wall art

(1) mural painting, (2) a mural decoration

The **mural** on the wall depicted the history of the city.

# aptly

adv. in a way that is appropriate or fitting; in a way that demonstrates understanding or intelligence

synonym: appropriately, fittingly, properly

(1) aptly named, (2) aptly timed

She **aptly** described the complex scientific concept in simple terms everyone could understand.

# symbolism

n. the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities, especially in art and literature; an artistic movement in the late 19th century that tried to express abstract or mystical ideas through the symbolic use of images

synonym: iconography, allegory, metaphor

(1) the **symbolism** of the event, (2) political **symbolism** The **symbolism** in the painting was rich and complex, with many layers of meaning.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality Her remarks **confused** the debate.

#### chaotic

adj. without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing

*synonym*: disorderly, cluttered, topsy-turvy

(1) the **chaotic** economic situation, (2) **chaotic** theory Change is also occurring in Turkey as a result of **chaotic** reform.

#### monumental

adj. great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive

synonym: massive, awesome, enormous

(1) monumental task, (2) monumental sculpture

Everyone, even non-scholars, knows Einstein's **monumental** contributions to physics.

### disorient

 to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go

*synonym*: confuse, flummox, perplex

(1) **disorient** his audience, (2) **disorient** and wrong-foot viewers

Several studies have indicated that human activity at sea might **disorient** dolphins and whales.

#### cubism

n. a 20th-century art movement that emphasizes the formal structure of objects, often breaking them down into geometric shapes and planes and depicting them from multiple angles at once

synonym: abstractionism, geometric art

(1) geometric cubism, (2) abstract cubism

Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque are two of the most famous **cubism** artists.

# profoundly

adv. to a great or complete degree; deeply synonym: deeply, greatly, completely

(1) profoundly insightful, (2) sleep profoundly

The novel affected her **profoundly**, causing her to question her beliefs and values.

#### hurtle

v. to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way

synonym: throw, hurl, fling

(1) hurtle into a tunnel, (2) hurtle through life

The car **hurtled** down the highway at breakneck speed.

### **futile**

adj. incapable of producing any useful result; pointless synonym: useless, worthless, ineffective

(1) futile talk, (2) make a futile protest

It was **futile** to try and fix the broken vase, as it was too badly damaged.

# splinter

n. a small, thin, sharp piece of wood, glass, or other material that has broken off from a larger piece; a fragment or small piece that has separated from something larger

synonym: shard, fragment, sliver

(1) splinter cell, (2) remove a splinter

The car window shattered into a million little **splinters** during the crash.

#### devastation

 the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale

synonym: destruction, ruin, havoc

(1) financial devastation, (2) devastation to life

The economic recession caused **devastation** in the housing market, with many people losing their homes.

#### slouch

v. to stand, sit, or walk in a lazy, drooping way, often with the shoulders hanging forward and the head bent forward

*synonym*: slump, crouch, droop

(1) **slouch** along the street, (2) **slouch** down in a chair After hearing the results, he **slouched** against a wall.

### helpless

adj. unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help

synonym: defenseless, powerless, susceptible

(1) **helpless** baby, (2) **helpless** victims

I feel so **helpless** without you.

# hopeless

adj. having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

synonym: despairing, helpless, futile

(1) hopeless situation, (2) hopeless at everything

After months of job searching, he felt **hopeless** and unsure of his future.

# claustrophobia

- a persistent and intense fear of enclosed or small spaces
- (1) overcome claustrophobia,
- (2) claustrophobia-inducing

She suffered from **claustrophobia** and couldn't take elevators.

#### counteract

 to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it

*synonym*: balance, offset, compensate

(1) **counteract** the effect of poison, (2) **counteract** global warming

Our body's immune system produces antibodies to **counteract** disease.

# atrocity

- n. brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel actsynonym: evil, horror, iniquity
- commit atrocity, (2) cold-blooded atrocity
   The atrocity of the war left many children orphaned.

#### lantern

 a portable source of lighting, typically featuring a protective enclosure for the light source

synonym: lamp, beacon, flashlight

(1) candle **lantern**, (2) a **lantern** in the dark

The paper-covered **lantern** glowed softly in the darkness.

# jagged

- adj. having a rough and sharply uneven surface or outline synonym: bumpy, irregular, craggy
- (1) **jagged** edges, (2) the **jagged** outline of the crags There are several **jagged** limestone peaks throughout the mountains.

#### illuminate

to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity

synonym: brighten, light, adorn

- (1) **illuminate** a dark hall, (2) **illuminate** my understanding That biologist **illuminated** the mechanism of heredity.
- a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin

synonym: casket, box, chest

(1) coffin lid, (2) wooden coffin

The priest prayed over the **coffin** before it was lowered into the ground.

#### confine

coffin

- to restrict the movement of someone or something synonym: restrict, limit, contain
- (1) **confine** themselves solely, (2) **confine** the scope of use The animal was **confined** in a small cage.
- to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to ν. become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy way; to fight or engage in conflict

synonym: tangle, brawl, skirmish

(1) fray tempers, (2) fray our relationship

The edges of the old blanket had started to fray, so I decided to sew them up.

doe

a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym: rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe** 

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

# embody

to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea

synonym: represent, exemplify, personify

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fray

(1) **embody** my goal, (2) **embody** a spirit of charity The company's new products **embody** the values of innovation and sustainability.

#### nationalist

 adj. relating to or supporting a political ideology that emphasizes a strong sense of national identity and devotion to one's own country

synonym: chauvinist, patriotic, jingoist

nationalist sentiment, (2) nationalist revolt
 The nationalist rally attracted thousands of supporters.

#### matador

*n.* the principal performer in a bullfight, responsible for the final kill of the bull

synonym: bullfighter, torero, toreador

(1) matador's cape, (2) skilled matador

The **matador's** graceful movements and bravery in the ring impressed even his toughest critics.

### strife

 n. conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups

synonym: conflict, disagreement, dissension

(1) at **strife** over the land, (2) civil **strife** 

The country has been wracked by political **strife** for many years.

# carnage

n. the killing or slaughter of a large number of people,
 especially in a battle or war; a situation in which many
 people are killed or injured in a violent way

synonym: slaughter, massacre, bloodshed

(1) carnage on the battlefield, (2) brutal carnage

The battlefield was filled with **carnage**, a terrible reminder of the horrors of war.

# villager

 a person who lives in a village or small rural community;
 a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community

synonym: resident, inhabitant, countryperson

(1) villager community, (2) local villager

The rural **villagers** were saddened by the destruction of their homes in the natural disaster.

#### multifaceted

adj. having many different aspects, features, or sides; complex and varied

synonym: complex, diverse, versatile

(1) a **multifaceted** undertaking, (2) **multifaceted** problem The job requires excellent communication skills and a **multifaceted** approach to problem-solving.

# ignite

- v. to set on fire; to cause to start burning
- synonym: light, set fire to, ignite
- (1) **ignite** a boom, (2) **ignite** passion

He **ignited** the fireworks with a single spark.

# grapple

v. to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons

synonym: brawl, scuffle, wrestle

(1) **grapple** with problem, (2) **grapple** with each other He needed to **grapple** with structural reforms to improve the company's revenue.

#### shatter

v. to break suddenly into many pieces

synonym: break, crash, destroy

(1) **shatter** the plate, (2) **shatter** a world record

Her husband's death **shattered** her life entirely.

#### subtext

n. an underlying and often implicit meaning or message conveyed in a work of art, literature, or conversation; the unspoken thoughts, emotions, or motivations that may be suggested or hinted at through the actions, behaviors, or words of characters or speakers

synonym: undercurrent, implication, hidden meaning

(1) subtext message, (2) hidden subtext

The **subtext** of the novel reveals the characters' true

motivations and emotions.

sear

v. to char, scorch, or burn the surface of something with intense heat; (of pain or experience) to be deeply felt or remembered over a long time

synonym: scorch, cook, burn

(1) **sear** tissue using a hot iron, (2) **sear** the memory into your mind

Be careful not to **sear** the meat too long, as it can become tough and chewy.

# **Session 2: Spelling**

sleep pro\_\_\_\_ly

10. fr\_\_\_\_ed excitement

9.

1.	s_r the memory into your mind	v.	to char, scorch, or burn the surface of something with intense heat; (of pain or experience) to be deeply felt or remembered over a long time
2.	dint his audience	v.	to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
3.	hoss situation	adj.	having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
4.	ige passion	<i>v</i> .	to set on fire; to cause to start burning
5.	clabia-inducing	n.	a persistent and intense fear of enclosed or small spaces
6.	multed problem	adj.	having many different aspects, features, or sides; complex and varied
7.	remove a sper	n.	a small, thin, sharp piece of wood, glass, or other material that has broken off from a larger piece; a fragment or small piece that has separated from something larger
8.	geometric cum	n.	a 20th-century art movement that emphasizes the formal structure of objects, often breaking them down into geometric shapes and planes and depicting them from multiple angles at

fear, or excitement

once

adv. to a great or complete degree; deeply

adj. wild, excited, or uncontrolled, often as a

result of strong emotions such as anger,

ANSWERS: 1. sear, 2. disorient, 3. hopeless, 4. ignite, 5. claustrophobia, 6. multifaceted, 7. splinter, 8. cubism, 9. profoundly, 10. frenzied

11.	proly insightful	adv.	to a great or complete degree; deeply
12.	coe themselves solely	<i>v</i> .	to restrict the movement of someone or something
13.	at ste over the land	n.	conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups
14.	political sysm	n.	the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities, especially in art and literature; an artistic movement in the late 19th century that tried to express abstract or mystical ideas through the symbolic use of images
15.	fy our relationship	<i>v</i> .	to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy way; to fight or engage in conflict
16.	hess baby	adj.	unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help
17.	fred buying	adj.	wild, excited, or uncontrolled, often as a result of strong emotions such as anger, fear, or excitement
18.	hue into a tunnel	v.	to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way
19.	hess victims	adj.	unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help
20.	monal sculpture	adj.	great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive
21.	the sysm of the event	n.	the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities, especially in art and literature; an artistic movement in the late 19th century that tried to express abstract or mystical ideas through the symbolic use of images

ANSWERS: 11. profoundly, 12. confine, 13. strife, 14. symbolism, 15. fray, 16. helpless, 17. frenzied, 18. hurtle, 19. helpless, 20. monumental, 21. symbolism

22.	fue talk	adj.	incapable of producing any useful result; pointless
23.	civilian caty	n.	a person who has been killed or injured in a war, accident, or other disasters; a victim
24.	emy a spirit of charity	<i>v</i> .	to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea
25.	dint and wrong-foot viewers	<i>v</i> .	to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
26.	candle lan	n.	a portable source of lighting, typically featuring a protective enclosure for the light source
27.	slh down in a chair	ν.	to stand, sit, or walk in a lazy, drooping way, often with the shoulders hanging forward and the head bent forward
28.	fat policies	adj.	relating to or supporting fascism, which is a political ideology that emphasizes authoritarian government, nationalism, and suppression of political opposition and individual liberties
29.	apy named	adv.	in a way that is appropriate or fitting; in a way that demonstrates understanding or intelligence
30.	skilled mar	n.	the principal performer in a bullfight, responsible for the final kill of the bull
31.	apy timed	adv.	in a way that is appropriate or fitting; in a way that demonstrates understanding or intelligence
32.	illte my understanding	<i>v</i> .	to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity

ANSWERS: 22. futile, 23. casualty, 24. embody, 25. disorient, 26. lantern, 27. slouch, 28. fascist, 29. aptly, 30. matador, 31. aptly, 32. illuminate

33.	vier community	n.	a person who lives in a village or small rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community
34.	coe the listener	<i>v</i> .	to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
35.	illte a dark hall	v.	to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity
36.	d_e rabbit	n.	a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
37.	a lan in the dark	n.	a portable source of lighting, typically featuring a protective enclosure for the light source
38.	gre with each other	v.	to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons
39.	jad edges	adj.	having a rough and sharply uneven surface or outline
40.	military caty	n.	a person who has been killed or injured in a war, accident, or other disasters; a victim
41.	financial devon	n.	the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale
42.	hidden sut	n.	an underlying and often implicit meaning or message conveyed in a work of art, literature, or conversation; the unspoken thoughts, emotions, or motivations that may be suggested or hinted at through the actions, behaviors, or words of characters or speakers

ANSWERS: 33. villager, 34. confuse, 35. illuminate, 36. doe, 37. lantern, 38. grapple, 39. jagged, 40. casualty, 41. devastation, 42. subtext

43.	overcome cla	_bia	n.	a persistent and intense fear of enclosed or small spaces
44.	a mul decoration		adj.	a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface
45.	natst revolt		adj.	relating to or supporting a political ideology that emphasizes a strong sense of national identity and devotion to one's own country
46.	sper cell		n.	a small, thin, sharp piece of wood, glass, or other material that has broken off from a larger piece; a fragment or small piece that has separated from something larger
47.	abstract cum		n.	a 20th-century art movement that emphasizes the formal structure of objects, often breaking them down into geometric shapes and planes and depicting them from multiple angles at once
48.	couct global warr	ming	<i>v</i> .	to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
49.	cold-blooded atty		n.	brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
50.	a multed undert	aking	adj.	having many different aspects, features, or sides; complex and varied
51.	mar's cape		n.	the principal performer in a bullfight, responsible for the final kill of the bull
52.	ige a boom		v.	to set on fire; to cause to start burning

ANSWERS: 43. claustrophobia, 44. mural, 45. nationalist, 46. splinter, 47. cubism, 48. counteract, 49. atrocity, 50. multifaceted, 51. matador, 52. ignite

53.	the jad outline of the crags	adj.	having a rough and sharply uneven surface or outline
54.	natst sentiment	adj.	relating to or supporting a political ideology that emphasizes a strong sense of national identity and devotion to one's own country
55.	the chc economic situation	adj.	without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing
56.	shr a world record	ν.	to break suddenly into many pieces
57.	fy tempers	v.	to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to become angry or upset, especially in a public or noisy way; to fight or engage in conflict
58.	cae on the battlefield	n.	the killing or slaughter of a large number of people, especially in a battle or war; a situation in which many people are killed or injured in a violent way
59.	slh along the street	v.	to stand, sit, or walk in a lazy, drooping way, often with the shoulders hanging forward and the head bent forward
60.	gre with problem	v.	to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons
61.	shr the plate	<i>v</i> .	to break suddenly into many pieces
62.	sr tissue using a hot iron	<i>v</i> .	to char, scorch, or burn the surface of something with intense heat; (of pain or experience) to be deeply felt or remembered over a long time

ANSWERS: 53. jagged, 54. nationalist, 55. chaotic, 56. shatter, 57. fray, 58. carnage, 59. slouch, 60. grapple, 61. shatter, 62. sear

63.	civil ste	n.	conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups
64.	chc theory	adj.	without any order or organization; extremely disorganized, unpredictable, and confusing
65.	hoss at everything	adj.	having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
66.	make a fue protest	adj.	incapable of producing any useful result; pointless
67.	muI painting	adj.	a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface
68.	sut message	n.	an underlying and often implicit meaning or message conveyed in a work of art, literature, or conversation; the unspoken thoughts, emotions, or motivations that may be suggested or hinted at through the actions, behaviors, or words of characters or speakers
69.	devon to life	n.	the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale
70.	emy my goal	<i>v</i> .	to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea
71.	wooden con	n.	a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
72.	commit atty	n.	brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
73.	monal task	adj.	great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive

ANSWERS: 63. strife, 64. chaotic, 65. hopeless, 66. futile, 67. mural, 68. subtext, 69. devastation, 70. embody, 71. coffin, 72. atrocity, 73. monumental

74. co\_\_\_e the scope of use to restrict the movement of someone or ν. something to move quickly and forcefully, 75. hu e through life ν. especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way 76. local vi\_\_\_\_er a person who lives in a village or small n. rural community; a person who is part of a close-knit and traditional community 77. brutal ca e the killing or slaughter of a large number of people, especially in a battle or war; a situation in which many people are killed or injured in a violent way 78. co e fantasy with reality to mistake one thing for another; to ν. make somebody hard to understand a mature female of mammals of which 79. buck and d e n. the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit a box or container used to bury a dead 80. co\_\_\_n lid n. body; a case or structure resembling a coffin to act against something to reduce its 81. cou\_\_\_\_ct the effect of poison ν. bad or harmful effects or neutralize it 82. fa t propaganda adj. relating to or supporting fascism, which is a political ideology that emphasizes authoritarian government, nationalism,

ANSWERS: 74. confine, 75. hurtle, 76. villager, 77. carnage, 78. confuse, 79. doe, 80. coffin, 81. counteract, 82. fascist

and suppression of political opposition

and individual liberties

# **Session 3: Fill in the Blanks**

1.	Unfortunately, the driver was the only in the car accident.
n.	a person who has been killed or injured in a war, accident, or other disasters; a victim
2.	The priest prayed over the before it was lowered into the ground.
n.	a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
3.	The of the war left many children orphaned.
n.	brutal act; an extremely wicked or cruel act
4.	The regime was accused of being for their oppressive tactics.
adj	relating to or supporting fascism, which is a political ideology that emphasizes authoritarian government, nationalism, and suppression of political opposition and individual liberties
5.	The car window shattered into a million little during the crash.
n.	a small, thin, sharp piece of wood, glass, or other material that has broken off from a larger piece; a fragment or small piece that has separated from something larger
6.	The animal was in a small cage.
ν.	to restrict the movement of someone or something
7.	It was to try and fix the broken vase, as it was too badly damaged.
adj	incapable of producing any useful result; pointless
AN futi	SWERS: 1. casualty, 2. coffin, 3. atrocity, 4. fascist, 5. splinters, 6. confined, 7.

15. The job requires excellent communication skills and a \_\_\_\_\_ approach to problem-solving.

adj. having many different aspects, features, or sides; complex and varied

ANSWERS: 8. claustrophobia, 9. sear, 10. counteract, 11. doe, 12. shattered, 13. symbolism, 14. villagers, 15. multifaceted

ANSWERS: 16. illuminated, 17. grapple, 18. jagged, 19. ignited, 20. hopeless, 21. strife, 22. nationalist, 23. carnage,

ANSWERS: 24. mural, 25. disorient, 26. matador's, 27. cubism, 28. chaotic, 29. devastation, 30. aptly

	Everyone, even non-scholars, knows Einstein'sphysics.	contributions to
adj.	great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; ma	assive
	The crowd rushed towards the stage at the music wild, excited, or uncontrolled, often as a result of strong em	
	anger, fear, or excitement	
33.	I feel so without you.	
adj.	unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help	
34.	The edges of the old blanket had started to so I decide	ed to sew them up.
ν.	to become worn or damaged at the edges or with use; to be upset, especially in a public or noisy way; to fight or engage	~ .
35.	After hearing the results, he against a wall.	
v.	to stand, sit, or walk in a lazy, drooping way, often with the forward and the head bent forward	shoulders hanging
36.	Her remarks the debate.	
v.	to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to	understand
37.	The paper-covered glowed softly in the darkness.	
n.	a portable source of lighting, typically featuring a protective light source	enclosure for the
38.	The of the novel reveals the characters' true motiva	tions and emotions.
n.	an underlying and often implicit meaning or message conveliterature, or conversation; the unspoken thoughts, emotion that may be suggested or hinted at through the actions, before characters or speakers	s, or motivations
	SWERS: 31. monumental, 32. frenzied, 33. helpless, 34. fray, fused, 37. lantern, 38. subtext	35. slouched, 36.

39. v.		_ the values of innovation and sustainability. g; to give tangible form to an abstract idea
40.	The novel affected hervalues.	_ causing her to question her beliefs and
adv	to a great or complete degree; dee	ply
41.	The car down the highway	at breakneck speed.
<i>v</i> .	to move quickly and forcefully, esp	ecially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way