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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Susan Wardle: Are you able to see faces in everyday objects? | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/susan\\_wardle\\_are\\_you\\_able\\_to\\_see\\_faces\\_in\\_everyday\\_objects](https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_wardle_are_you_able_to_see_faces_in_everyday_objects)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### mundane

*adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

*synonym*: ordinary, everyday, prosaic

(1) **mundane** affairs, (2) **mundane** objects

After returning from the war, he had a pretty **mundane** life.

### pareidolia

*n.* the psychological phenomenon of perceiving patterns or images in random or vague stimuli such as clouds, shadows, or sounds; the tendency of the human brain to interpret non-existent patterns as meaningful or significant

*synonym*: illusion, hallucination, delusion

(1) **pareidolia** phenomenon, (2) audio **pareidolia**

Many people experience visual **pareidolia**, seeing faces and recognizable images in random patterns such as clouds or tree bark.

### humming

*adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

*synonym*: buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

## determinant

*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

*synonym*: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

## trustworthy

*adj.* reliable and dependable

*synonym*: reliable, dependable, honest

(1) **trustworthy** ally, (2) **trustworthy** source

People tend to believe **trustworthy** friends with their secrets.

## prioritize

*v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

*synonym*: rank, order, arrange

(1) **prioritize** tasks, (2) **prioritize** people over cars

The organization **prioritized** the needs of the community in its decision-making.

## 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**.

## illusory

*adj.* not real or true; based on or having the nature of an illusion

*synonym*: illusive, deceptive, delusional

(1) **illusory** wealth, (2) **illusory** hope

The promise of easy money turned out to be **illusory**.

## byproduct

*n.* a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else

*synonym*: side effect, spinoff, outgrowth

(1) toxic **byproducts**, (2) **byproduct** of technology

The **byproduct** of the energy production process is a large amount of carbon dioxide emissions.

## advantageous

*adj.* providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial

*synonym*: beneficial, favorable, profitable

(1) **advantageous** conditions, (2) **advantageous** interest rate

The new job opportunity offered by the company is highly **advantageous**.

## hypersensitive

*adj.* easily or overly affected emotionally, physically, or mentally by stimuli or situations that are not normally considered stressful or upsetting

*synonym*: over-sensitive, touchy, fragile

(1) **hypersensitive** reaction, (2) **hypersensitive** nerve endings

She became **hypersensitive** to criticism after being bullied in school.

## dupe

*v.* to deceive or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to cheat or swindle someone; (noun) a person who has been deceived or tricked into believing something that is not true, often by someone who is trying to take advantage of them

*synonym*: trick, deceive, fool

(1) **dupe** him into believing, (2) **dupe** the public

He tried to **dupe** me into buying a product that didn't work.

## electroencephalography

*n.* (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions

*synonym*:

brain wave test, EEG, neural scan

(1) **electroencephalography** test, (2) abnormal **electroencephalography**

She is an **electroencephalography** technician skilled in performing EEG tests on patients.

## stimming

*n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

*synonym*: self-stimulation, repetitive behaviors

(1) autistic **stimming**, (2) **stimming** therapy

Autistic children may engage in **stimming** behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.

## fusiform

*adj.* having a spindle-like shape that is wide in the middle and tapering at both ends; characterized by a rounded, elongated form

*synonym*: narrow, tapered, spindle-shaped

(1) **fusiform** face area, (2) **fusiform** neurons

The **fusiform** gyrus is a brain region that plays a key role in face recognition.

## rhesus

*n.* a type of macaque monkey (any of the various short-tailed monkeys found in Asia and Africa) often used in scientific research

*synonym*: macaca mulatta, macaque

(1) **Rhesus** macaque, (2) **rhesus** experiment

**Rhesus** monkeys are known for their intelligence and adaptability in captivity.

## macaque

*n.* any of the various short-tailed monkeys found in Asia and Africa, typically living in large groups and known for their intelligence and adaptability

*synonym*: macaca, macaca monkey

(1) **macaque** monkey, (2) **macaque** species

The rhesus **macaque** is one of the biomedical research's most widely used animal models.

## **primate**

*n.* any mammal of the order Primates, which includes monkeys, apes, and humans

*synonym*: ape, monkey, lemur

(1) **primate** species, (2) **primate** sanctuary

Many scientists study **primate** behavior and intelligence.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. environmental det\_\_\_\_\_nt  
*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
2. fu\_\_\_\_\_rm face area  
*adj.* having a spindle-like shape that is wide in the middle and tapering at both ends; characterized by a rounded, elongated form
3. fu\_\_\_\_\_rm neurons  
*adj.* having a spindle-like shape that is wide in the middle and tapering at both ends; characterized by a rounded, elongated form
4. il\_\_\_\_\_ry wealth  
*adj.* not real or true; based on or having the nature of an illusion
5. il\_\_\_\_\_ry hope  
*adj.* not real or true; based on or having the nature of an illusion
6. pri\_\_\_\_\_ze people over cars  
*v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
7. ma\_\_\_\_\_e monkey  
*n.* any of the various short-tailed monkeys found in Asia and Africa, typically living in large groups and known for their intelligence and adaptability
8. d\_\_e him into believing  
*v.* to deceive or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to cheat or swindle someone; (noun) a person who has been deceived or tricked into believing something that is not true, often by someone who is trying to take advantage of them

ANSWERS: 1. determinant, 2. fusiform, 3. fusiform, 4. illusory, 5. illusory, 6. prioritize, 7. macaque, 8. dupe

9. pr\_\_\_\_\_e species *n.* any mammal of the order Primates, which includes monkeys, apes, and humans
10. par\_\_\_\_\_ia phenomenon *n.* the psychological phenomenon of perceiving patterns or images in random or vague stimuli such as clouds, shadows, or sounds; the tendency of the human brain to interpret non-existent patterns as meaningful or significant
11. adv\_\_\_\_\_ous conditions *adj.* providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial
12. pri\_\_\_\_\_ze tasks *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
13. a det\_\_\_\_\_nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
14. by\_\_\_\_\_ct of technology *n.* a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else
15. rh\_\_\_s experiment *n.* a type of macaque monkey (any of the various short-tailed monkeys found in Asia and Africa) often used in scientific research
16. toxic by\_\_\_\_\_cts *n.* a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else
17. 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: 9. primate, 10. pareidolia, 11. advantageous, 12. prioritize, 13. determinant, 14. byproduct, 15. rhesus, 16. byproduct, 17. rev

18. hu\_\_\_\_g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
19. mu\_\_\_\_e affairs *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
20. hu\_\_\_\_g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
21. tru\_\_\_\_hy source *adj.* reliable and dependable
22. 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
23. hyp\_\_\_\_ive nerve endings *adj.* easily or overly affected emotionally, physically, or mentally by stimuli or situations that are not normally considered stressful or upsetting
24. adv\_\_\_\_ous interest rate *adj.* providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial
25. mu\_\_\_\_e objects *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
26. audio par\_\_\_\_ia *n.* the psychological phenomenon of perceiving patterns or images in random or vague stimuli such as clouds, shadows, or sounds; the tendency of the human brain to interpret non-existent patterns as meaningful or significant
27. Rh\_\_\_\_s macaque *n.* a type of macaque monkey (any of the various short-tailed monkeys found in Asia and Africa) often used in scientific research

ANSWERS: 18. humming, 19. mundane, 20. humming, 21. trustworthy, 22. rev, 23. hypersensitive, 24. advantageous, 25. mundane, 26. pareidolia, 27. rhesus



28. ele\_\_\_\_\_phy test      *n.* (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions
29. tru\_\_\_\_\_hy ally      *adj.* reliable and dependable
30. pr\_\_\_\_\_e sanctuary      *n.* any mammal of the order Primates, which includes monkeys, apes, and humans
31. abnormal  
ele\_\_\_\_\_phy      *n.* (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions
32. autistic st\_\_\_\_\_ng      *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
33. st\_\_\_\_\_ng therapy      *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

ANSWERS: 28. electroencephalography, 29. trustworthy, 30. primate, 31. electroencephalography, 32. stimming, 33. stimming

34. d\_\_e the public
- v. to deceive or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to cheat or swindle someone; (noun) a person who has been deceived or tricked into believing something that is not true, often by someone who is trying to take advantage of them
35. ma\_\_\_\_e species
- n. any of the various short-tailed monkeys found in Asia and Africa, typically living in large groups and known for their intelligence and adaptability
36. hyp\_\_\_\_\_ive reaction
- adj. easily or overly affected emotionally, physically, or mentally by stimuli or situations that are not normally considered stressful or upsetting

ANSWERS: 34. dupe, 35. macaque, 36. hypersensitive

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She became \_\_\_\_\_ to criticism after being bullied in school.  
*adj.* easily or overly affected emotionally, physically, or mentally by stimuli or situations that are not normally considered stressful or upsetting
2. The organization \_\_\_\_\_ the needs of the community in its decision-making.  
*v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
3. One \_\_\_\_\_ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.  
*n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
4. The rhesus \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the biomedical research's most widely used animal models.  
*n.* any of the various short-tailed monkeys found in Asia and Africa, typically living in large groups and known for their intelligence and adaptability
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ gyrus is a brain region that plays a key role in face recognition.  
*adj.* having a spindle-like shape that is wide in the middle and tapering at both ends; characterized by a rounded, elongated form
6. 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
7. People tend to believe \_\_\_\_\_ friends with their secrets.  
*adj.* reliable and dependable

ANSWERS: 1. hypersensitive, 2. prioritized, 3. determinant, 4. macaque, 5. fusiform, 6. rev, 7. trustworthy

8. The promise of easy money turned out to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- adj.* not real or true; based on or having the nature of an illusion
9. Autistic children may engage in \_\_\_\_\_ behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.
- n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
10. Many scientists study \_\_\_\_\_ behavior and intelligence.
- n.* any mammal of the order Primates, which includes monkeys, apes, and humans
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
- adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
12. She is an \_\_\_\_\_ technician skilled in performing EEG tests on patients.
- n.* (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the energy production process is a large amount of carbon dioxide emissions.
- n.* a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else
14. Many people experience visual \_\_\_\_\_ seeing faces and recognizable images in random patterns such as clouds or tree bark.
- n.* the psychological phenomenon of perceiving patterns or images in random or vague stimuli such as clouds, shadows, or sounds; the tendency of the human brain to interpret non-existent patterns as meaningful or significant

ANSWERS: 8. illusory, 9. stimming, 10. primate, 11. humming, 12. electroencephalography, 13. byproduct, 14. pareidolia,

15. \_\_\_\_\_ monkeys are known for their intelligence and adaptability in captivity.  
*n.* a type of macaque monkey (any of the various short-tailed monkeys found in Asia and Africa) often used in scientific research
16. After returning from the war, he had a pretty \_\_\_\_\_ life.  
*adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
17. The new job opportunity offered by the company is highly \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial
18. He tried to \_\_\_\_\_ me into buying a product that didn't work.  
*v.* to deceive or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to cheat or swindle someone; (noun) a person who has been deceived or tricked into believing something that is not true, often by someone who is trying to take advantage of them

ANSWERS: 15. Rhesus, 16. mundane, 17. advantageous, 18. dupe