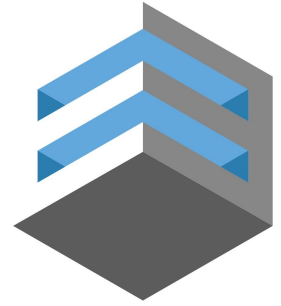


Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alex Gendler: Why should you read "Crime and Punishment"? | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/alex_gendler_why_should_you_read_crime_and_punishment

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

abject

adj. extremely unpleasant and degrading; physically or emotionally impoverished; miserable, wretched, and hopeless

synonym: wretched, miserable, pitiful

(1) **abject** failure, (2) **abject** despair

The **abject** poverty in the slums is a concern for the government.

pawn

n. a piece in the game of chess that can be moved only forward and captured only diagonally; (verb) leave as a guarantee in return for money

synonym: collateral, pledge, security

(1) **pawn** checkmate, (2) **pawn** my jewelry

He used his watch as a **pawn** in the game of chess.

unthinkable

adj. too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept

synonym: impossible, inconceivable, outlandish

(1) an **unthinkable** coincidence, (2) in **unthinkable** trouble

That accident was something **unthinkable** with my long experience.

turmoil

n. a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions

synonym : chaos, confusion, disorder

(1) political **turmoil**, (2) the **turmoil** of the war

The company experienced financial **turmoil** after the CEO was arrested.

dank

adj. unpleasantly damp and musty; (used in slang) considered cool or of high quality, particularly about cannabis and marijuana culture

synonym : musty, damp, humid

(1) **dank** basement, (2) **dank** smell

The old, **dank** cellar was the perfect place for storing wine.

tavern

n. a public place where alcoholic drinks are served

synonym : bar, pub, saloon

(1) drink in a **tavern**, (2) traditional **taverns**

The **tavern** keeper was a friendly man who always had a good joke.

dilapidated

adj. in a state of disrepair, decay, or disuse, often due to neglect or age; rundown or shabby in appearance or condition

synonym : rundown, shabby, decaying

(1) **dilapidated** house, (2) **dilapidated** building

The abandoned amusement park was now only a collection of **dilapidated** rides.

claustrophobia

n. 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.

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.

hinge

n. a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close

synonym : joint, pivot

(1) a stiff **hinge**, (2) insecure **hinge**

His involvement is the **hinge** of our plan.

lecherous

adj. having or showing excessive or offensive sexual desire; lustful; prone to immoral behavior or sexual misconduct

synonym : lustful, lewd, licentious

(1) **lecherous** behavior, (2) **lecherous** thoughts

He couldn't help but stare at her with **lecherous** eyes.

nobleman

n. a man of high rank or status

synonym : aristocrat, noble, gentleman

(1) **nobleman** title, (2) a Bohemian **nobleman**

The young **nobleman** lived in a grand palace with high social status.

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.

depravity

n. moral corruption or degradation; a state of extreme wickedness or immorality; morally twisted or warped behavior

synonym : corruption, wickedness, immorality

(1) **depravity** of human nature, (2) moral **depravity**

The **depravity** of the serial killer shocked the nation.

intertwine

v. to twist together or become twisted together

synonym: interweave, interlace, entwine

(1) **intertwine** thread, (2) **intertwine** story

The vines **intertwine** to form a thick canopy overhead.

bleak

adj. unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope

synonym: miserable, pathetic, dim

(1) prospects were **bleak**, (2) **bleak** future

The political landscape looks **bleak** without a change of administration.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

pardon

v. to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime; (noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense

synonym: forgive, excuse, absolve

(1) **pardon** me, (2) supplicate for **pardon**

The governor decided to **pardon** the prisoner after reviewing the evidence of his innocence.

czar

n. (also tsar or tzar) a title of rulers or monarchs, especially in Russia, before the Russian Revolution of 1917; an authoritarian or powerful political leader or high-level officeholder

synonym: ruler, sovereign, autocrat

(1) technology **czar**, (2) economic **czar**

The **czar** of healthcare is responsible for improving the quality and accessibility of healthcare for all citizens.

pessimistic

adj. tending to see the worst aspect of things or expecting the worst possible outcome

synonym : cynical, defeatist, despairing

(1) take a **pessimistic** view of life, (2) **pessimistic** for our survival

She was unduly **pessimistic** about her future.

novella

n. a written work of fiction that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel

synonym : short novel, long story, narrative

(1) write a **novella**, (2) a **novella** set in a medieval kingdom

I am reading a famous **novella** about a group of friends who go on a road trip.

expound

v. to explain or clarify something in detail or with great care; to interpret or elucidate

synonym : explain, clarify, interpret

(1) **expound** theory, (2) **expound** on the subject

The professor spent hours **expounding** on the complexities of quantum physics.

utopian

adj. ideal and perfect; relating to or resembling a utopia (= an ideal and perfect society)

synonym : idealistic, perfectionistic, unrealistic

(1) **utopian** society, (2) **utopian** goal

He had a **utopian** vision of a world without war.

contradictory

adj. containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements

synonym : conflicting, opposing, inconsistent

(1) apparently **contradictory**, (2) **contradictory** evidence

His statements were **contradictory**, leaving the audience confused.

yearn

v. to strongly desire or long for something

synonym : long, desire, crave

(1) **yearn** after my old days, (2) **yearn** for love
She **yearned** for the days when things were simpler.

conceive

v. to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant

synonym: imagine, envision, concoct

(1) **conceive** of an idea, (2) **conceive** a child

I can't **conceive** he'd want to harm us.

seduce

v. to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship

synonym: tempt, lure, entice

(1) **seduce** him into crime, (2) **seduce** her mind

He tried to **seduce** her with his charm and good looks.

corruptible

adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

synonym: bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

egoist

n. a person who is excessively focused on their interests, needs, or welfare; one who regards self-interest or personal advantage as their main priority

synonym: narcissist, self-centered person

(1) **egoist** behavior, (2) arrogant **egoist**

Her **egoist** nature caused her to lose friends.

utilitarianism

n. the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority

(1) individualistic **utilitarianism**, (2) institutional **utilitarianism**

Utilitarianism focuses on results and consequences rather than rules.

transcend

v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
synonym: surpass, exceed, overcome

(1) **transcend** boundaries, (2) **transcend** limits

The music **transcended** cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

moralize

v. to express or teach a moral lesson or principle, often in a self-righteous or didactic way; to reflect on the ethical or moral aspects of a situation or behavior

synonym: preach, lecture, sermonize

(1) **moralize** a situation, (2) **moralize** about politics

I don't like it when people try to **moralize** me about my personal choices.

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**.

ensue

v. to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something

synonym: follow, occur, result

(1) **ensue** within a few years, (2) predict what will **ensue**

A power outage **ensued** after the storm knocked out the electricity.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ab____t failure *adj.* extremely unpleasant and degrading; physically or emotionally impoverished; miserable, wretched, and hopeless
2. le_____us thoughts *adj.* having or showing excessive or offensive sexual desire; lustful; prone to immoral behavior or sexual misconduct
3. moral de_____ty *n.* moral corruption or degradation; a state of extreme wickedness or immorality; morally twisted or warped behavior
4. de_____ty of human nature *n.* moral corruption or degradation; a state of extreme wickedness or immorality; morally twisted or warped behavior
5. dil_____ed house *adj.* in a state of disrepair, decay, or disuse, often due to neglect or age; rundown or shabby in appearance or condition
6. in unt_____le trouble *adj.* too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept
7. dil_____ed building *adj.* in a state of disrepair, decay, or disuse, often due to neglect or age; rundown or shabby in appearance or condition
8. institutional uti_____ism *n.* the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
9. pes_____ic for our survival *adj.* tending to see the worst aspect of things or expecting the worst possible outcome

ANSWERS: 1. abject, 2. lecherous, 3. depravity, 4. depravity, 5. dilapidated, 6. unthinkable, 7. dilapidated, 8. utilitarianism, 9. pessimistic

10. cla_____bia-inducing *n.* a persistent and intense fear of enclosed or small spaces
11. en__e within a few years *v.* to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
12. d__k basement *adj.* unpleasantly damp and musty; (used in slang) considered cool or of high quality, particularly about cannabis and marijuana culture
13. int_____ne story *v.* to twist together or become twisted together
14. le_____us behavior *adj.* having or showing excessive or offensive sexual desire; lustful; prone to immoral behavior or sexual misconduct
15. tr_____nd boundaries *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
16. an unt_____le coincidence *adj.* too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept
17. mo_____ze about politics *v.* to express or teach a moral lesson or principle, often in a self-righteous or didactic way; to reflect on the ethical or moral aspects of a situation or behavior
18. mo_____ze a situation *v.* to express or teach a moral lesson or principle, often in a self-righteous or didactic way; to reflect on the ethical or moral aspects of a situation or behavior
19. 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: 10. claustrophobia, 11. ensue, 12. dank, 13. intertwine, 14. lecherous, 15. transcend, 16. unthinkable, 17. moralize, 18. moralize, 19. rev

20. overcome cla_____bia *n.* a persistent and intense fear of enclosed or small spaces
21. se___e him into crime *v.* to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship
22. ex_____d theory *v.* to explain or clarify something in detail or with great care; to interpret or elucidate
23. d__k smell *adj.* unpleasantly damp and musty; (used in slang) considered cool or of high quality, particularly about cannabis and marijuana culture
24. the tu_____l of the war *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
25. pa___n me *v.* to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime; (noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense
26. apparently con_____ory *adj.* containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
27. cor_____le officials *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
28. co_____ve a child *v.* to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
29. a stiff hi__e *n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
30. drink in a ta___n *n.* a public place where alcoholic drinks are served

ANSWERS: 20. claustrophobia, 21. seduce, 22. expound, 23. dank, 24. turmoil, 25. pardon, 26. contradictory, 27. corruptible, 28. conceive, 29. hinge, 30. tavern

31. arrogant eg___t *n.* a person who is excessively focused on their interests, needs, or welfare; one who regards self-interest or personal advantage as their main priority
32. cor_____le judges *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
33. co_____ve of an idea *v.* to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
34. tr_____nd limits *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
35. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
36. s__r tissue using a hot iron *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
37. traditional ta_____ns *n.* a public place where alcoholic drinks are served
38. se___e her mind *v.* to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship
39. predict what will en___e *v.* to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
40. technology c__r *n.* (also tsar or tzar) a title of rulers or monarchs, especially in Russia, before the Russian Revolution of 1917; an authoritarian or powerful political leader or high-level officeholder

ANSWERS: 31. egoist, 32. corruptible, 33. conceive, 34. transcend, 35. intellect, 36. sear, 37. tavern, 38. seduce, 39. ensue, 40. czar

41. ye__n after my old days *v.* to strongly desire or long for something
42. ut____n goal *adj.* ideal and perfect; relating to or resembling a utopia (= an ideal and perfect society)
43. individualistic uti_____ism *n.* the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
44. 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
45. bl__k future *adj.* unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope
46. economic c__r *n.* (also tsar or tzar) a title of rulers or monarchs, especially in Russia, before the Russian Revolution of 1917; an authoritarian or powerful political leader or high-level officeholder
47. st__k landscape *adj.* empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications
48. st__k truth *adj.* empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications
49. p__n checkmate *n.* a piece in the game of chess that can be moved only forward and captured only diagonally; (verb) leave as a guarantee in return for money
50. con_____ory evidence *adj.* containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements

ANSWERS: 41. yearn, 42. utopian, 43. utilitarianism, 44. rev, 45. bleak, 46. czar, 47. stark, 48. stark, 49. pawn, 50. contradictory

51. insecure hi__e *n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
52. ex____d on the subject *v.* to explain or clarify something in detail or with great care; to interpret or elucidate
53. write a no____a *n.* a written work of fiction that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel
54. no____an title *n.* a man of high rank or status
55. eg__t behavior *n.* a person who is excessively focused on their interests, needs, or welfare; one who regards self-interest or personal advantage as their main priority
56. human in____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
57. political tu____l *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
58. a Bohemian no____an *n.* a man of high rank or status
59. a no____a set in a medieval kingdom *n.* a written work of fiction that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel
60. 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

ANSWERS: 51. hinge, 52. expound, 53. novella, 54. nobleman, 55. egoist, 56. intellect, 57. turmoil, 58. nobleman, 59. novella, 60. sear

61. p__n my jewelry *n.* a piece in the game of chess that can be moved only forward and captured only diagonally; (verb) leave as a guarantee in return for money
62. take a pes_____ic view of life *adj.* tending to see the worst aspect of things or expecting the worst possible outcome
63. ut_____n society *adj.* ideal and perfect; relating to or resembling a utopia (= an ideal and perfect society)
64. prospects were bl__k *adj.* unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope
65. int_____ne thread *v.* to twist together or become twisted together
66. ye__n for love *v.* to strongly desire or long for something
67. supplicate for pa____n *v.* to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime; (noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense
68. ab____t despair *adj.* extremely unpleasant and degrading; physically or emotionally impoverished; miserable, wretched, and hopeless

ANSWERS: 61. pawn, 62. pessimistic, 63. utopian, 64. bleak, 65. intertwine, 66. yearn, 67. pardon, 68. abject

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The abandoned amusement park was now only a collection of _____ rides.
adj. in a state of disrepair, decay, or disuse, often due to neglect or age; rundown or shabby in appearance or condition
2. I can't _____ he'd want to harm us.
v. to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
3. The governor decided to _____ the prisoner after reviewing the evidence of his innocence.
v. to forgive someone for something they have said or done, such as a crime; (noun) the act of excusing a mistake or offense
4. She was unduly _____ about her future.
adj. tending to see the worst aspect of things or expecting the worst possible outcome
5. His statements were _____ leaving the audience confused.
adj. containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
6. The professor spent hours _____ on the complexities of quantum physics.
v. to explain or clarify something in detail or with great care; to interpret or elucidate
7. The _____ of healthcare is responsible for improving the quality and accessibility of healthcare for all citizens.
n. (also tsar or tzar) a title of rulers or monarchs, especially in Russia, before the Russian Revolution of 1917; an authoritarian or powerful political leader or high-level officeholder

ANSWERS: 1. dilapidated, 2. conceive, 3. pardon, 4. pessimistic, 5. contradictory, 6. expounding, 7. czar

8. Bureaucracies are more _____ than other systems or organizations.
adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
9. He used his watch as a _____ in the game of chess.
n. a piece in the game of chess that can be moved only forward and captured only diagonally; (verb) leave as a guarantee in return for money
10. I am reading a famous _____ about a group of friends who go on a road trip.
n. a written work of fiction that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel
11. The young _____ lived in a grand palace with high social status.
n. a man of high rank or status
12. The _____ poverty in the slums is a concern for the government.
adj. extremely unpleasant and degrading; physically or emotionally impoverished; miserable, wretched, and hopeless
13. Be careful not to _____ the meat too long, as it can become tough and chewy.
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
14. That accident was something _____ with my long experience.
adj. too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept
15. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
16. The company experienced financial _____ after the CEO was arrested.
n. a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions

ANSWERS: 8. corruptible, 9. pawn, 10. novella, 11. nobleman, 12. abject, 13. sear, 14. unthinkable, 15. intellect, 16. turmoil

17. The old, _____ cellar was the perfect place for storing wine.
adj. unpleasantly damp and musty; (used in slang) considered cool or of high quality, particularly about cannabis and marijuana culture
18. He couldn't help but stare at her with _____ eyes.
adj. having or showing excessive or offensive sexual desire; lustful; prone to immoral behavior or sexual misconduct
19. 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
20. A power outage _____ after the storm knocked out the electricity.
v. to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
21. The scenery of the battlefield was _____ and grey.
adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications
22. The vines _____ to form a thick canopy overhead.
v. to twist together or become twisted together
23. _____ focuses on results and consequences rather than rules.
n. the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
24. She suffered from _____ and couldn't take elevators.
n. a persistent and intense fear of enclosed or small spaces

ANSWERS: 17. dank, 18. lecherous, 19. rev, 20. ensued, 21. stark, 22. intertwine, 23. Utilitarianism, 24. claustrophobia

25. The music _____ cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.
v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
26. The political landscape looks _____ without a change of administration.
adj. unlikely to be favorable; unpleasantly cold and damp; offering little or no hope
27. He had a _____ vision of a world without war.
adj. ideal and perfect; relating to or resembling a utopia (= an ideal and perfect society)
28. His involvement is the _____ of our plan.
n. a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
29. The _____ of the serial killer shocked the nation.
n. moral corruption or degradation; a state of extreme wickedness or immorality; morally twisted or warped behavior
30. She _____ for the days when things were simpler.
v. to strongly desire or long for something
31. I don't like it when people try to _____ me about my personal choices.
v. to express or teach a moral lesson or principle, often in a self-righteous or didactic way; to reflect on the ethical or moral aspects of a situation or behavior
32. Her _____ nature caused her to lose friends.
n. a person who is excessively focused on their interests, needs, or welfare; one who regards self-interest or personal advantage as their main priority

ANSWERS: 25. transcended, 26. bleak, 27. utopian, 28. hinge, 29. depravity, 30. yearned, 31. moralize, 32. egoist

33. The _____ keeper was a friendly man who always had a good joke.

n. a public place where alcoholic drinks are served

34. He tried to _____ her with his charm and good looks.

v. to entice someone to engage in sexual behavior or to enter into a romantic relationship

ANSWERS: 33. tavern, 34. seduce