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# Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Juliet Brophy: How a new species of ancestors is changing our theory of human evolution | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/juliet\_brophy\_how\_a\_new\_species\_of\_ancestors\_is\_changing\_our\_theory\_of\_human\_evolution



# **Advanced Words Only**

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# **Session 1: Word List**

# paleoanthropology

 n. the branch of anthropology concerned with the study of human evolution and development through fossilized remains, genetics, and other methods

synonym: prehistoric anthropology, paleontology

(1) paleoanthropology expedition, (2) paleoanthropology museum

The study of **paleoanthropology** involves analyzing fossil remains to understand the evolution of humans.

#### ancestor

- n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefathersynonym: forebear, forefather, progenitor
- (1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

# chimpanzee

a small, very intelligent ape found in west and central
 Africa with black or brown fur

synonym: ape, chimp, pan troglodytes

(1) **chimpanzee** behavior, (2) **chimpanzee** society Many zoos have **chimpanzee** exhibits, allowing visitors to observe these intelligent primates up close.

#### hominin

n. a group of primates that include humans and their ancestors, distinguished by bipedal locomotion, large brains relative to body size, and skeletal adaptations for upright posture and locomotion

synonym: early human, human ancestor, human-like

(1) hominin fossils, (2) hominin evolution

The classification of **hominin** species is complex due to the small number of fossils available for study.

# **Australopithecus**

 any of several extinct hominid species that lived in Africa between 4 million and 1 million years ago and are considered to be among the earliest ancestors of modern humans

synonym: hominid, primate, ape

(1) **Australopithecus** skull, (2) **Australopithecus** africanus **Australopithecus** fossils have been found in Eastern and Southern Africa.

# sparse

adj. only in small quantities or numbers and often spread over a wide area

synonym: scarce, exiguous, infrequent

(1) a **sparse** population, (2) **sparse** snowfall There is a **sparse** area between galaxies.

# pelvic

- adj. of or relating to the pelvis, the lower part of the trunk of the human body, between the hips
- (1) **pelvic** pain, (2) **pelvic** exam

The **pelvic** region is an important area of the human anatomy.

# morphology

n. the study of the form and structure of plants, animals, and other organisms; the study of the alteration of word forms as they change from one part of speech to another

synonym: structure, form, anatomy

(1) **morphology** of a language, (2) cellular **morphology** The **morphology** of rocks can reveal clues about their

# geological history.

# 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.

### determinant

 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.

#### excavate

- v. to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover somethingsynonym: dig, unearth, extract
- (1) **excavate** a deep hole, (2) **excavate** soil

  The archaeologists **excavated** the ruins of an ancient city buried under the desert sands.

#### trove

 a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth

synonym: hoard, collection, assemblage

(1) trove of information, (2) stumble on a trove
The treasure trove of ancient artifacts was a museum's dream come true.

#### specie

 coins or notes in a currency, as distinct from paper money; a chemical substance or group made up of identical molecules

synonym: coinage, mintage

(1) specie reserve, (2) ground-state specie

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The store only accepts payment in cash, no credit or debit cards, only **specie**.

#### cranium

*n.* the skull of a human or animal, which encloses and protects the brain

synonym: skull, head, braincase

(1) human cranium, (2) fractured cranium

The scientist studied the dinosaur's **cranium** to learn more about its brain.

# biped

n. an animal with two feet

synonym: hominoid

(1) **biped** robot, (2) a featherless **biped** 

**Biped** walking encouraged the further evolution of humankind.

#### ape

 a large animal with long arms, no tail, and usually a lot of body hair, including gorillas, chimpanzees, orangutans, and gibbons

synonym: monkey, primate, simian

(1) jungle ape, (2) play the ape

The scientist studied the behavior of **apes** in the wild.

#### ancestral

adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past

synonym: hereditary, inherited, patrimonial

(1) an **ancestral** graveyard, (2) **ancestral** roots

The **ancestral** home has been in the family for generations.

#### scarcely

adv. hardly or almost not; only just

synonym: barely, narrowly, hardly

(1) **scarcely** readable, (2) **scarcely** any interest in public We **scarcely** ever used AEDs.

# assemblage

 a collection or gathering of things or persons; a group or ensemble of items that have been brought together in a particular way synonym: gathering, collection, meeting

(1) sculptural **assemblage**, (2) an **assemblage** of tools The **assemblage** of artists displayed their works in the gallery for all to see.

# fragmentary

 adj. consisting of small or disjointed fragments; incomplete or lacking coherence or continuity; characterized by fragmentation or disunity

synonym: incomplete, shattered, partial

- (1) **fragmentary** information, (2) **fragmentary** remains The historian could only piece together a **fragmentary** account of the ancient civilization.
- n. a particular feature of your naturesynonym: attribute, feature, quality
- (1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

#### molar

one of the large teeth located in the back of the mouth used for grinding and chewing food; a dental drill used for removing decay or shaping teeth; (adjective) describing a solution in which the concentration of a solute is expressed in moles per liter (mol/L)

synonym: tooth, grinder, premolar

- (1) molar tooth, (2) molar absorbancy indexI have a cavity in my molar and need to see the dentist.
- one of the front teeth in the human or animal mouth that are used for biting or cutting food; a tooth adapted for cutting

synonym: front tooth, fang

sharpened incisors, (2) upper incisor
 The dentist extracted my incisor due to decay and infection.

## canine

adj. relating to or characteristic of dogs or the dog family;
 having qualities that are similar to those of dogs, such as loyalty or aggressiveness

.....

trait

incisor

synonym: laniary, dog-like, doggy

(1) canine behavior, (2) canine teeth

The veterinarian recommended a **canine-friendly** diet for my dog's health.

cusp

 a pointed end, especially the pointed end of a crescent moon or the part of a curve that is most curved

synonym: point, apex, tip

(1) cusp of change, (2) a single cusp

The project was on the **cusp** of success and needed a little more funding.

mitten

 a glove with a separate sheath for the thumb but a combined sheath for the four fingers, typically warmer than a traditional glove

synonym: glove, gauntlet, handwear

(1) fingerless **mitten**, (2) knitted **mitten** 

My mom knit me a pair of warm woolen **mittens** for the winter.

occlusal

adj. referring to the surface or point of contact between upper and lower teeth, particularly the chewing surface of the molars and premolars

synonym: chewing, biting surface

(1) occlusal surface, (2) occlusal adjustment

The dentist used an **occlusal** examination to check for patient bite issues.

deciduous

adj. (of plants and shrubs) shedding its foliage annually; (of teeth, antlers, etc.) shedding its body parts at the end of a period of growth

synonym: momentary, temporary, short-term

(1) deciduous tree, (2) deciduous teeth

**Deciduous** leafy trees dominate the forests of the lower region.

#### hominid

 a primate of a family (Hominidae) that includes humans and their fossil ancestors

synonym: human, primate, ancestor

(1) large-toothed **hominid**, (2) **hominid** evolution Scientists have discovered new fossil evidence of an ancient **hominid** species.

# intraspecific

adj. relating to or occurring within a single species; referring to the interactions, behaviors, or traits that occur among individuals or populations of the same species

synonym: within species, sibling, conspecific

(1) **intraspecific** variation, (2) **intraspecific** competition The study focused on the **intraspecific** differences between the two species of birds.

#### flare

to burn brightly with a sudden, intense burst of flame or light; (noun) a sudden and brief burst of bright flame or light; a sudden and intense burst of radiation from the Sun's surface

synonym: blaze, ignite, light up

(1) **flare** up into a major crisis, (2) the **flare** of a match The Sun **flared** and caused a sudden brightening in the sky.

#### humanlike

adj. resembling or having characteristics of a human, such as in appearance or behavior

synonym: resembling human, humanoid, anthropomorphic

(1) humanlike robot, (2) humanlike behavior

The android's **humanlike** features made distinguishing from a real person difficult.

#### slender

adj. thin and delicate, often in an attractive way

synonym: lanky, skinny, slim

(1) slender body, (2) a long slender leaf

He has a **slender** income.

#### rethink

v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

synonym: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

#### coexist

 to live or exist together at the same time in the same place

*synonym*: cohabit, accompany, synchronize

(1) **coexist** with nature, (2) **coexist** with diversity

The different species can **coexist** in the same ecosystem by filling different niches and using different resources.

#### interbreed

- v. to breed between different species or varieties synonym: crossbreed, hybridize
- (1) **interbreed** to produce hybrid offspring, (2) **interbreed** plants

Lions and tigers can interbreed to produce a liger.

# archaeology

- the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
- (1) the institute of **archaeology**, (2) prehistoric **archaeology** She teaches **archaeology** at the local university.

#### artifact

 a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

synonym: antique, relic, heirloom

paleolithic artifacts, (2) Peruvian artifacts
 The museum has a vast collection of Greek artifacts.

#### industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effortsynonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

# ironic

adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

synonym: sarcastic, wry, sardonic

(1) **ironic** result, (2) an **ironic** turn of events It was **ironic** that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.

# **Session 2: Spelling**

1.	earliest human anor	n.	a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
2.	paleolithic arcts	n.	a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
3.	upper inr	n.	one of the front teeth in the human or animal mouth that are used for biting or cutting food; a tooth adapted for cutting
4.	tre of information	n.	a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
5.	cae behavior	adj.	relating to or characteristic of dogs or the dog family; having qualities that are similar to those of dogs, such as loyalty or aggressiveness
6.	sharpened inrs	n.	one of the front teeth in the human or animal mouth that are used for biting or cutting food; a tooth adapted for cutting
7.	Auscus africanus	n.	any of several extinct hominid species that lived in Africa between 4 million and 1 million years ago and are considered to be among the earliest ancestors of modern humans
8.	hon fossils	n.	a group of primates that include humans and their ancestors, distinguished by bipedal locomotion, large brains relative to body size, and skeletal adaptations for upright posture and locomotion

ANSWERS: 1. ancestor, 2. artifact, 3. incisor, 4. trove, 5. canine, 6. incisor, 7. Australopithecus, 8. hominin

ANSWERS: 9. pelvic, 10. rethink, 11. ape, 12. determinant, 13. sparse, 14. assemblage, 15. hominid, 16. deciduous, 17. determinant

- 18. a single c\_\_p
- 19. di\_\_\_\_t sleep
- 20. the fl\_e of a match
- 21. personality tr\_\_ts
- 22. sp\_\_\_e reserve
- 23. sc\_\_\_\_ly any interest in public
- 24. co\_\_\_t with diversity
- 25. a featherless bi d
- 26. co t with nature
- 27. fl e up into a major crisis

- a pointed end, especially the pointed end of a crescent moon or the part of a curve that is most curved
- v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
- v. to burn brightly with a sudden, intense burst of flame or light; (noun) a sudden and brief burst of bright flame or light; a sudden and intense burst of radiation from the Sun's surface
- *n*. a particular feature of your nature
- n. coins or notes in a currency, as distinct from paper money; a chemical substance or group made up of identical molecules
- adv. hardly or almost not; only just
- v. to live or exist together at the same time in the same place
- n. an animal with two feet
- v. to live or exist together at the same time in the same place
- to burn brightly with a sudden, intense burst of flame or light; (noun) a sudden and brief burst of bright flame or light; a sudden and intense burst of radiation from the Sun's surface

ANSWERS: 18. cusp, 19. disrupt, 20. flare, 21. trait, 22. specie, 23. scarcely, 24. coexist, 25. biped, 26. coexist, 27. flare

cab-Builde	er Ref from "Juliet Brophy: How a new species of ances	tors is	changing our theory of human evolution   TED Talk" (40 word
36.	mor tooth	n.	one of the large teeth located in the back of the mouth used for grinding and chewing food; a dental drill used for removing decay or shaping teeth; (adjective) describing a solution in which the concentration of a solute is expressed in moles per liter (mol/L)
37.	exte soil	v.	to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something
38.	anor language	n.	a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
39.	anal roots	adj.	related to or connected with members of your family from the past
40.	an irc turn of events	adj.	using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
41.	chemical trt	n.	a particular feature of your nature
42.	Peruvian arcts	n.	a person-made object, especially one of

- historical or cultural interest
- the skull of a human or animal, which encloses and protects the brain
- the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
- adj. referring to the surface or point of contact between upper and lower teeth, particularly the chewing surface of the molars and premolars

ANSWERS: 36. molar, 37. excavate, 38. ancestor, 39. ancestral, 40. ironic, 41. trait, 42. artifact, 43. cranium, 44. archaeology, 45. occlusal

43. fractured cr\_\_\_\_m

45. oc\_\_\_al surface

44. the institute of arc\_\_\_\_gy

55.	pal	ogy expedition	n.	the branch of anthropology concerned with the study of human evolution and development through fossilized remains, genetics, and other methods
56.	dit a well-or	dered condition	ν.	to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
57.	hon evolutio	n	n.	a group of primates that include humans and their ancestors, distinguished by bipedal locomotion, large brains relative to body size, and skeletal adaptations for upright posture and locomotion
58.	stumble on a tr	_e	n.	a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
59.	chiee soci	ety	n.	a small, very intelligent ape found in west and central Africa with black or brown fur
60.	prehistoric arc	9у	n.	the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
61.	huke beha	vior	adj.	resembling or having characteristics of a human, such as in appearance or behavior
62.	an anal gra	aveyard	adj.	related to or connected with members of your family from the past
63.	bid robot		n.	an animal with two feet
64.	rek the role	of the manager	<i>v</i> .	to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
			-	, 57. hominin, 58. trove, 59. 62. ancestral, 63. biped, 64. rethink

Australopithecus

ANSWERS: 75. specie, 76. industrious, 77. ironic, 78. intraspecific, 79. hominid, 80. occlusal

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

1. The museum has a vast collection of Greek
n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
<ol><li>It was that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.</li></ol>
adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect
3. My mom knit me a pair of warm woolen for the winter.
n. a glove with a separate sheath for the thumb but a combined sheath for the four fingers, typically warmer than a traditional glove
4. The Sun and caused a sudden brightening in the sky.
v. to burn brightly with a sudden, intense burst of flame or light; (noun) a sudder and brief burst of bright flame or light; a sudden and intense burst of radiation from the Sun's surface
5. The treasure of ancient artifacts was a museum's dream come true.
n. a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
6. Lions and tigers can to produce a liger.
v. to breed between different species or varieties
<ol><li>The study focused on the differences between the two species of birds.</li></ol>
adj. relating to or occurring within a single species; referring to the interactions, behaviors, or traits that occur among individuals or populations of the same species
ANSWERS: 1. artifacts, 2. ironic, 3. mittens, 4. flared, 5. trove, 6. interbreed, 7. intraspecific

39.	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
40.	The store only accepts payment in cash, no credit or debit cards, only  coins or notes in a currency, as distinct from paper money; a chemical
	substance or group made up of identical molecules
AN	SWERS: 39. determinant, 40. specie

word