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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Lýdia Machová: The secrets of learning a new language | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/lydia\\_machova\\_the\\_secrets\\_of\\_learning\\_a\\_new\\_language](https://www.ted.com/talks/lydia_machova_the_secrets_of_learning_a_new_language)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### fluent

*adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

*synonym*: eloquent, articulate, smooth-spoken

(1) **fluent** Chinese, (2) in a **fluent** tone

She learned five languages but is only **fluent** in two of them.

### polyglot

*adj.* characterized by the ability to understand and speak multiple languages; involving or using several languages

*synonym*: multilingual, fluent in multiple languages

(1) gifted **polyglot**, (2) **polyglot** skills

The city's population is quite **polyglot**, with various languages being spoken on the streets.

### ingenious

*adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill

*synonym*: creative, innovative, inventive

(1) **ingenious** device, (2) **ingenious** idea

I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so **ingenious**.

### imitate

*v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

*synonym*: mimic, emulate, replicate

(1) **imitate** painting styles, (2) **imitate** animal sounds

He **imitated** the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

**app** *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC  
*synonym* : application, software  
(1) killer **app**, (2) cannot log in to the **app**  
The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.

**germ** *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one  
*synonym* : bacterium, microbe, pathogen  
(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment  
The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

**sitcom** *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format  
*synonym* : comedy, TV show  
(1) **sitcom** series, (2) popular **sitcom**  
I love to watch **sitcoms** when I need a good laugh.

**gibberish** *n.* unintelligible or nonsensical language or speech; meaningless or difficult to comprehend talk or writing  
*synonym* : nonsense, babble, drivel  
(1) **gibberish** language, (2) meaningless **gibberish**  
He spoke in **gibberish**, and no one could understand what he was trying to say.

**introvert** *n.* a shy and reticent person  
*synonym* : observer, loner, solitary  
(1) **introvert** personality, (2) **introvert** behavior  
Being an **introvert** is not a weakness, and it's just a different

way of interacting with the world.

## memorize

*v.* to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly

*synonym*: learn, remember, remind

(1) **memorize** musical scores, (2) try hard to **memorize** the lines

Lawyers need to **memorize** even the most minor provisions of the law.

## chore

*n.* a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor

*synonym*: task, duty, job

(1) **chore** list, (2) household **chores**

Cleaning the house is a **chore** that only some enjoy.

## motto

*n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

*synonym*: slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

## doe

*n.* 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.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. in\_\_\_\_\_us idea *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
2. meaningless gi\_\_\_\_\_sh *n.* unintelligible or nonsensical language or speech; meaningless or difficult to comprehend talk or writing
3. in\_\_\_\_\_rt personality *n.* a shy and reticent person
4. ch\_\_e list *n.* a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor
5. in a fl\_\_\_t tone *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
6. cannot log in to the a\_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
7. company mo\_\_o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
8. popular si\_\_\_m *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
9. a g\_\_m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
10. po\_\_\_\_\_ot skills *adj.* characterized by the ability to understand and speak multiple languages; involving or using several languages

ANSWERS: 1. ingenious, 2. gibberish, 3. introvert, 4. chore, 5. fluent, 6. app, 7. motto, 8. sitcom, 9. germ, 10. polyglot

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 11. gifted po____ot                | <i>adj.</i> characterized by the ability to understand and speak multiple languages; involving or using several languages |
| 12. d_e rabbit                     | <i>n.</i> a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit                       |
| 13. me____ze musical scores        | <i>v.</i> to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly   |
| 14. im____e animal sounds          | <i>v.</i> to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something  |
| 15. gi_____sh language             | <i>n.</i> unintelligible or nonsensical language or speech; meaningless or difficult to comprehend talk or writing        |
| 16. fl____t Chinese                | <i>adj.</i> able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily                                 |
| 17. try hard to me____ze the lines | <i>v.</i> to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly   |
| 18. household ch__es               | <i>n.</i> a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor   |
| 19. the mo__o for safe traffic     | <i>n.</i> a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal   |
| 20. buck and d_e                   | <i>n.</i> a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit                       |
| 21. in_____us device               | <i>adj.</i> showing inventiveness and ability or skill  |

ANSWERS: 11. polyglot, 12. doe, 13. memorize, 14. imitate, 15. gibberish, 16. fluent, 17. memorize, 18. chore, 19. motto, 20. doe, 21. ingenious

22. antibiotic-resistant g\_\_m                    *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
23. in\_\_\_\_\_rt behavior                    *n.* a shy and reticent person
24. im\_\_\_\_\_e painting styles                    *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
25. si\_\_\_m series                    *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
26. killer a\_p                    *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

ANSWERS: 22. germ, 23. introvert, 24. imitate, 25. sitcom, 26. app

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I love to watch \_\_\_\_\_ when I need a good laugh.  
*n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
2. She learned five languages but is only \_\_\_\_\_ in two of them.  
*adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
3. Lawyers need to \_\_\_\_\_ even the most minor provisions of the law.  
*v.* to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
4. I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.  
*n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
6. He spoke in \_\_\_\_\_ and no one could understand what he was trying to say.  
*n.* unintelligible or nonsensical language or speech; meaningless or difficult to comprehend talk or writing
7. The company's \_\_\_\_\_ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.  
*n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
8. Cleaning the house is a \_\_\_\_\_ that only some enjoy.  
*n.* a routine or tedious task, often related to household or manual labor

ANSWERS: 1. sitcoms, 2. fluent, 3. memorize, 4. ingenious, 5. germ, 6. gibberish, 7. motto, 8. chore

9. The city's population is quite \_\_\_\_\_ with various languages being spoken on the streets.  
*adj.* characterized by the ability to understand and speak multiple languages; involving or using several languages
10. Being an \_\_\_\_\_ is not a weakness, and it's just a different way of interacting with the world.  
*n.* a shy and reticent person
11. He \_\_\_\_\_ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.  
*v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
12. The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the \_\_\_\_\_ release.  
*n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
13. Hunters use a whistle that makes the \_\_\_\_\_ sound to lure stags.  
*n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

ANSWERS: 9. polyglot, 10. introvert, 11. imitated, 12. app's, 13. doe