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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Paul Rucker: The symbols of systemic racism -- and how to take away their power | TED Talk*  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/paul\\_rucker\\_the\\_symbols\\_of\\_systemic\\_racism\\_and\\_how\\_to\\_take\\_away\\_their\\_p  
ower](https://www.ted.com/talks/paul_rucker_the_symbols_of_systemic_racism_and_how_to_take_away_their_power)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### shackle

*n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind

*synonym*: chains, fetters, handcuffs

(1) **shackle** chains, (2) metal **shackle**

The prisoner wore heavy **shackles** on his wrists and ankles.

### lynch

*v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance

*synonym*: hang, execute, mob

(1) **lynch** law, (2) **lynch** him to death

The mob wanted to **lynch** the suspect before he could be tried in court.

### depict

*v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

*synonym*: illustrate, describe, express

(1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation

His son had accurately **depicted** the bloom.

## portray

*v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

*synonym*: depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

## artifact

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

*synonym*: antique, relic, heirloom

(1) paleolithic **artifacts**, (2) Peruvian **artifacts**

The museum has a vast collection of Greek **artifacts**.

## kente

*n.* a colorful and intricately patterned fabric originating in Ghana; traditionally worn in a variety of ceremonial and formal contexts

*synonym*: colorful fabric, cloth, textile

(1) **kente** weaving, (2) traditional **kente**

The **kente** cloth worn by African royalty is made of vibrant, colorful strips of fabric.

## camouflage

*n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

*synonym*: guise, mask, cloak

(1) **camouflage** clothing, (2) work as **camouflage**

They utilized branches of trees as **camouflage**.

## spandex

*n.* a stretchy synthetic fiber that can be woven into fabric and used in tight-fitting garments such as exercise clothing or underwear

*synonym*: lycra, elastane, stretch fabric

(1) **spandex** leggings, (2) **spandex** gym clothes

The yoga pants were made of **spandex**, allowing for easy movement during exercise.

## **burlap**

*n.* a rough, woven fabric made from jute, hemp, or other fibers, often used for making sacks

*synonym*: hessian, gunny, jute

(1) **burlap** table runner, (2) **burlap** ribbon

The farmer used **burlap** sacks to transport his vegetables to the market.

## **segregate**

*v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic

*synonym*: isolate, separate, divide

(1) **segregate** by race, (2) **segregate** boys and girls

The school board decided to **segregate** students by the ability to meet their needs better.

## **disproportionate**

*adj.* too large or too small when compared with something else, or not deserving its importance or influence

*synonym*: undeserved, unequal, superfluous

(1) cause **disproportionate** damage, (2) **disproportionate** amount

This big gate is **disproportionate** to the small hut.

## **incarcerate**

*v.* to put or keep somebody in prison or in a place from which they cannot escape

*synonym*: confine, detain, imprison

(1) **incarcerate** the murderer, (2) **incarcerate** her for life

He was **incarcerated** for the duration of the war.

## **confederate**

*n.* a person who is allied or associated with another person or group, especially in a political or military context; a supporter of the Confederate States of America

*synonym*: ally, associate, partner

(1) **confederate** soldier, (2) **Confederate** government

The two countries are **confederates** and have a strong alliance.

## **millionaire**

*n.* a person who has material wealth that is valued at more than a million dollars, pounds, euros, etc.

(1) **millionaire** capitalist, (2) become a **millionaire**  
The Internet **millionaire** was captivated by the artist's paintings.

## chattel

*n.* personal property, especially that which is movable and not fixed to land

*synonym*: property, possession, asset

(1) **chattel** mortgage, (2) personal property **chattels**

The enslaved people were treated as **chattel** and had no rights or freedoms.

## boggle

*v.* to be overwhelmed or surprised by something; to hesitate or be uncertain about something; to cause someone to feel overwhelmed or surprised

*synonym*: hesitate, stagger, bewilder

(1) **boggle** the imagination, (2) **boggle** at the price

The complexity of the situation can **boggle** the mind.

## indigo

*adj.* a deep blue or purple-blue color; also, the plant that yields Indigo dye

*synonym*: blue, purplish-blue, violet-blue

(1) **indigo** fabric, (2) **indigo** plant

The **indigo** dye made the fabric a beautiful shade of blue.

## epiphany

*n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus

*synonym*: revelation, enlightenment, insight

(1) **epiphany** about life, (2) Feast of **Epiphany**

She had an **epiphany** while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.

## supremacy

*n.* the state, condition, or position of being superior to all others in authority, power, or status

*synonym*: dominance, superiority, preeminence

(1) a race for **supremacy**, (2) **supremacy** of a country

The empire's military power ensured its **supremacy** over the neighboring states.

## **sow**

*v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion

*synonym*: plant, scatter, seed

(1) **sow** wheat in a field, (2) **sow** discord

She carefully **sowed** the seeds in the garden.

## **segregation**

*n.* the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation

*synonym*: isolation, separation, discrimination

(1) racial **segregation**, (2) **segregation** of power

**Segregation** based on race or ethnicity is illegal and unjust.

## **dismantle**

*v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

*synonym*: take apart, demolish, take down

(1) **dismantle** a machine, (2) **dismantle** a system

The old building had to be **dismantled** because it was structurally unsound.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. cam_____ge clothing               | <i>n.</i> an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment |
| 2. bu____p ribbon                    | <i>n.</i> a rough, woven fabric made from jute, hemp, or other fibers, often used for making sacks   |
| 3. Feast of Ep_____ny                | <i>n.</i> a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus                       |
| 4. s_w discord                       | <i>v.</i> to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion  |
| 5. accurately po_____y the condition | <i>v.</i> to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work   |
| 6. personal property ch_____ls       | <i>n.</i> personal property, especially that which is movable and not fixed to land  |
| 7. po_____y feelings in words        | <i>v.</i> to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work   |
| 8. dis_____ate amount                | <i>adj.</i> too large or too small when compared with something else, or not deserving its importance or influence   |

ANSWERS: 1. camouflage, 2. burlap, 3. epiphany, 4. sow, 5. portray, 6. chattel, 7. portray, 8. disproportionate

9. bo\_\_\_e the imagination *v.* to be overwhelmed or surprised by something; to hesitate or be uncertain about something; to cause someone to feel overwhelmed or surprised
10. su\_\_\_\_\_cy of a country *n.* the state, condition, or position of being superior to all others in authority, power, or status
11. se\_\_\_\_\_te by race *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
12. Peruvian ar\_\_\_\_\_cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
13. Con\_\_\_\_\_te government *n.* a person who is allied or associated with another person or group, especially in a political or military context; a supporter of the Confederate States of America
14. sh\_\_\_\_\_e chains *n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind
15. racial seg\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation
16. de\_\_\_t a scene *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
17. sp\_\_\_\_\_x leggings *n.* a stretchy synthetic fiber that can be woven into fabric and used in tight-fitting garments such as exercise clothing or underwear

ANSWERS: 9. boggle, 10. supremacy, 11. segregate, 12. artifact, 13. confederate, 14. shackle, 15. segregation, 16. depict, 17. spandex

18. di\_\_\_\_\_le a system      *v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
19. bo\_\_\_e at the price      *v.* to be overwhelmed or surprised by something; to hesitate or be uncertain about something; to cause someone to feel overwhelmed or surprised
20. bu\_\_\_p table runner      *n.* a rough, woven fabric made from jute, hemp, or other fibers, often used for making sacks
21. inc\_\_\_\_\_te the murderer      *v.* to put or keep somebody in prison or in a place from which they cannot escape
22. inc\_\_\_\_\_te her for life      *v.* to put or keep somebody in prison or in a place from which they cannot escape
23. di\_\_\_\_\_le a machine      *v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
24. ly\_\_h him to death      *v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
25. traditional ke\_\_\_e      *n.* a colorful and intricately patterned fabric originating in Ghana; traditionally worn in a variety of ceremonial and formal contexts
26. metal sh\_\_\_\_\_e      *n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind

ANSWERS: 18. dismantle, 19. boggle, 20. burlap, 21. incarcerate, 22. incarcerate, 23. dismantle, 24. lynch, 25. kente, 26. shackle



27. ep\_\_\_\_ny about life *n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
28. se\_\_\_\_\_te boys and girls *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
29. con\_\_\_\_\_te soldier *n.* a person who is allied or associated with another person or group, especially in a political or military context; a supporter of the Confederate States of America
30. become a mil\_\_\_\_\_re *n.* a person who has material wealth that is valued at more than a million dollars, pounds, euros, etc.
31. sp\_\_\_\_\_x gym clothes *n.* a stretchy synthetic fiber that can be woven into fabric and used in tight-fitting garments such as exercise clothing or underwear
32. ly\_\_h law *v.* to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
33. s\_w wheat in a field *v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion

ANSWERS: 27. epiphany, 28. segregate, 29. confederate, 30. millionaire, 31. spandex, 32. lynch, 33. sow

34. ch\_\_\_\_l mortgage *n.* personal property, especially that which is movable and not fixed to land
35. a race for su\_\_\_\_\_cy *n.* the state, condition, or position of being superior to all others in authority, power, or status
36. seg\_\_\_\_\_on of power *n.* the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation
37. mil\_\_\_\_\_re capitalist *n.* a person who has material wealth that is valued at more than a million dollars, pounds, euros, etc.
38. de\_\_\_t a feeling of isolation *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
39. work as cam\_\_\_\_\_ge *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
40. ke\_\_e weaving *n.* a colorful and intricately patterned fabric originating in Ghana; traditionally worn in a variety of ceremonial and formal contexts
41. in\_\_\_o plant *adj.* a deep blue or purple-blue color; also, the plant that yields Indigo dye
42. cause dis\_\_\_\_\_ate damage *adj.* too large or too small when compared with something else, or not deserving its importance or influence

ANSWERS: 34. chattel, 35. supremacy, 36. segregation, 37. millionaire, 38. depict, 39. camouflage, 40. kente, 41. indigo, 42. disproportionate

43. paleolithic ar\_\_\_\_\_cts

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

44. in\_\_\_\_o fabric

*adj.* a deep blue or purple-blue color; also, the plant that yields Indigo dye

ANSWERS: 43. artifact, 44. indigo

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The mob wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ the suspect before he could be tried in court.
  - v. to put to death or punish (usually by hanging) without legal authorization or due process, often as an act of mob justice or vigilante action; (noun) a violent punishment, often extrajudicial, in which a mob or group of people seize and kill someone, usually by hanging, as a form of punishment or vengeance
2. His son had accurately \_\_\_\_\_ the bloom.
  - v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
3. They utilized branches of trees as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n. an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ cloth worn by African royalty is made of vibrant, colorful strips of fabric.
  - n. a colorful and intricately patterned fabric originating in Ghana; traditionally worn in a variety of ceremonial and formal contexts
5. The school board decided to \_\_\_\_\_ students by the ability to meet their needs better.
  - v. to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
6. The museum has a vast collection of Greek \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
7. We often \_\_\_\_\_ political problems as religious issues.
  - v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

ANSWERS: 1. lynch, 2. depicted, 3. camouflage, 4. kente, 5. segregate, 6. artifacts, 7. portray

8. The two countries are \_\_\_\_\_ and have a strong alliance.
- n.* a person who is allied or associated with another person or group, especially in a political or military context; a supporter of the Confederate States of America
9. She carefully \_\_\_\_\_ the seeds in the garden.
- v.* to plant seeds in the ground to grow crops or plants; to establish or set in motion
10. The empire's military power ensured its \_\_\_\_\_ over the neighboring states.
- n.* the state, condition, or position of being superior to all others in authority, power, or status
11. The old building had to be \_\_\_\_\_ because it was structurally unsound.
- v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
12. He was \_\_\_\_\_ for the duration of the war.
- v.* to put or keep somebody in prison or in a place from which they cannot escape
13. The complexity of the situation can \_\_\_\_\_ the mind.
- v.* to be overwhelmed or surprised by something; to hesitate or be uncertain about something; to cause someone to feel overwhelmed or surprised
14. \_\_\_\_\_ based on race or ethnicity is illegal and unjust.
- n.* the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation
15. This big gate is \_\_\_\_\_ to the small hut.
- adj.* too large or too small when compared with something else, or not deserving its importance or influence

ANSWERS: 8. confederates, 9. sowed, 10. supremacy, 11. dismantled, 12. incarcerated, 13. boggle, 14. Segregation, 15. disproportionate

16. The prisoner wore heavy \_\_\_\_\_ on his wrists and ankles.  
*n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind
17. The yoga pants were made of \_\_\_\_\_ allowing for easy movement during exercise.  
*n.* a stretchy synthetic fiber that can be woven into fabric and used in tight-fitting garments such as exercise clothing or underwear
18. The \_\_\_\_\_ dye made the fabric a beautiful shade of blue.  
*adj.* a deep blue or purple-blue color; also, the plant that yields Indigo dye
19. The enslaved people were treated as \_\_\_\_\_ and had no rights or freedoms.  
*n.* personal property, especially that which is movable and not fixed to land
20. The farmer used \_\_\_\_\_ sacks to transport his vegetables to the market.  
*n.* a rough, woven fabric made from jute, hemp, or other fibers, often used for making sacks
21. The Internet \_\_\_\_\_ was captivated by the artist's paintings.  
*n.* a person who has material wealth that is valued at more than a million dollars, pounds, euros, etc.
22. She had an \_\_\_\_\_ while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.  
*n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus

ANSWERS: 16. shackles, 17. spandex, 18. indigo, 19. chattel, 20. burlap, 21. millionaire, 22. epiphany