

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Katherine Hampsten: How miscommunication happens (and how to avoid it) | TED Talk
https://www.ted.com/talks/katherine_hampsten_how_miscommunication_happens_and_how_to_avoid_it

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

accuse

v. to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing

synonym: charge, blame, criticize

(1) **accuse** his rudeness, (2) **accuse** each other

The witness **accused** the defendant of committing the robbery.

animosity

n. strong hostility or hatred towards someone or something, often resulting in conflict or ill-will

synonym: enmity, hostility, bitterness

(1) personal **animosity**, (2) deep-seated **animosity**

The **animosity** between the two political parties has only grown stronger over the years.

misunderstand

v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

synonym: misinterpret, misperceive, misapprehend

(1) **misunderstand** each other, (2) **misunderstand** entirely about her

You should not **misunderstand** the meaning of freedom.

simplistic

adj. oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple

terms

synonym: basic, uncomplicated, elementary

(1) **simplistic** approach, (2) **simplistic** design

The politician's solution to the problem was too **simplistic** to solve the underlying issue.

transact

v. to carry out or conduct a business or other transaction; to complete or fulfill an agreement, deal, or contract

synonym: conduct, carry out, perform

(1) **transact** internationally, (2) **transact** in cash

I need to **transact** some business at the bank before it closes.

complication

n. something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused

synonym: confusion, complexity, difficulty

(1) **complication** of structure, (2) resolve without **complication**

He also continued to struggle with serious long-term **complications**.

meld

v. to combine or blend, especially in a way that produces a harmonious or unified whole; to merge or fuse

synonym: blend, merge, combine

(1) **meld** business and pleasure, (2) **meld** physics with life science

The chef **melded** the flavors of the spice blend to create the perfect marinade.

connote

v. to suggest or imply something in addition to its literal or primary meaning; to imply something beyond the literal or primary meaning

synonym: imply, suggest, signify

(1) **connote** emotion, (2) **connote** symbolism

The word 'home' **connotes** a sense of warmth and comfort.

distracted

adj. having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried

synonym : preoccupied, inattentive, absent-minded

(1) get **distracted** by an urgent matter, (2) **distracted** by a conversation

I was so **distracted** by my phone that I nearly walked into a lamppost.

growl

v. to make a low, guttural sound, usually similar to that of an animal, expressing anger, agitation, or disapproval

synonym : snarl, rumble, grumble

(1) **growl** menacingly, (2) **growl** a command

The dog began to **growl** at the stranger approaching the house.

reshape

v. to change the form or structure of something

synonym : alter, adjust, modify

(1) **reshape** education policy, (2) **reshape** my thoughts

The advent of the Internet completely **reshaped** the manufacturing industry.

mushy

adj. soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet

synonym : sappy, sentimental

(1) **mushy** romance, (2) **mushy** peas

The cake was **mushy** because I accidentally added too much milk to the batter.

nonverbal

adj. not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language

synonym : silent, mute, unspoken

(1) **nonverbal** communication, (2) **nonverbal** signal

Many communication skills rely on **nonverbal** cues such as body language and facial expressions.

Session 2: Spelling

1. mu__y romance *adj.* soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet
2. dis_____ed by a conversation *adj.* having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
3. m__d physics with life science *v.* to combine or blend, especially in a way that produces a harmonious or unified whole; to merge or fuse
4. re_____e my thoughts *v.* to change the form or structure of something
5. tr_____ct internationally *v.* to carry out or conduct a business or other transaction; to complete or fulfill an agreement, deal, or contract
6. no_____al communication *adj.* not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language
7. gr__l a command *v.* to make a low, guttural sound, usually similar to that of an animal, expressing anger, agitation, or disapproval
8. m__d business and pleasure *v.* to combine or blend, especially in a way that produces a harmonious or unified whole; to merge or fuse

ANSWERS: 1. mushy, 2. distracted, 3. meld, 4. reshape, 5. transact, 6. nonverbal, 7. growl, 8. meld

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 9. get dis_____ed by an urgent matter | <i>adj.</i> having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried |
| 10. ac___e his rudeness | <i>v.</i> to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing |
| 11. resolve without com_____ion | <i>n.</i> something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused |
| 12. sim_____ic design | <i>adj.</i> oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms |
| 13. tr_____ct in cash | <i>v.</i> to carry out or conduct a business or other transaction; to complete or fulfill an agreement, deal, or contract |
| 14. no_____al signal | <i>adj.</i> not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language |
| 15. re_____e education policy | <i>v.</i> to change the form or structure of something |
| 16. gr__l menacingly | <i>v.</i> to make a low, guttural sound, usually similar to that of an animal, expressing anger, agitation, or disapproval |
| 17. personal an_____ty | <i>n.</i> strong hostility or hatred towards someone or something, often resulting in conflict or ill-will |
| 18. ac___e each other | <i>v.</i> to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing |

ANSWERS: 9. distracted, 10. accuse, 11. complication, 12. simplistic, 13. transact, 14. nonverbal, 15. reshape, 16. growl, 17. animosity, 18. accuse

19. mis_____and each other *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
20. mis_____and entirely about her *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
21. co_____e emotion *v.* to suggest or imply something in addition to its literal or primary meaning; to imply something beyond the literal or primary meaning
22. deep-seated an_____ty *n.* strong hostility or hatred towards someone or something, often resulting in conflict or ill-will
23. sim_____ic approach *adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
24. com_____ion of structure *n.* something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused
25. mu__y peas *adj.* soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet
26. co_____e symbolism *v.* to suggest or imply something in addition to its literal or primary meaning; to imply something beyond the literal or primary meaning

ANSWERS: 19. misunderstand, 20. misunderstand, 21. connote, 22. animosity, 23. simplistic, 24. complication, 25. mushy, 26. connote

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The politician's solution to the problem was too _____ to solve the underlying issue.
adj. oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
2. I need to _____ some business at the bank before it closes.
v. to carry out or conduct a business or other transaction; to complete or fulfill an agreement, deal, or contract
3. You should not _____ the meaning of freedom.
v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
4. The witness _____ the defendant of committing the robbery.
v. to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
5. The word 'home' _____ a sense of warmth and comfort.
v. to suggest or imply something in addition to its literal or primary meaning; to imply something beyond the literal or primary meaning
6. The cake was _____ because I accidentally added too much milk to the batter.
adj. soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet
7. The _____ between the two political parties has only grown stronger over the years.
n. strong hostility or hatred towards someone or something, often resulting in conflict or ill-will

ANSWERS: 1. simplistic, 2. transact, 3. misunderstand, 4. accused, 5. connotes, 6. mushy, 7. animosity

8. Many communication skills rely on _____ cues such as body language and facial expressions.
adj. not involving or using spoken or written language; communicated through body language, facial expression, or other means besides language
9. The chef _____ the flavors of the spice blend to create the perfect marinade.
v. to combine or blend, especially in a way that produces a harmonious or unified whole; to merge or fuse
10. I was so _____ by my phone that I nearly walked into a lamppost.
adj. having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
11. He also continued to struggle with serious long-term _____.
n. something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused
12. The advent of the Internet completely _____ the manufacturing industry.
v. to change the form or structure of something
13. The dog began to _____ at the stranger approaching the house.
v. to make a low, guttural sound, usually similar to that of an animal, expressing anger, agitation, or disapproval

ANSWERS: 8. nonverbal, 9. melded, 10. distracted, 11. complications, 12. reshaped, 13. growl