

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Nita Farahany: When technology can read minds, how will we protect our privacy? | TED Talk

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

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

erupt

v. (of a volcano) to become active and eject rocks, smoke, etc.; to start abruptly and violently

synonym: eject, emit, burst

(1) **erupt** in anger, (2) **erupt** into tears

Battles between whites and blacks **erupted** immediately.

emigrate

v. to leave one's country or region to settle in another

synonym: migrate, relocate, move

(1) **emigrate** to a new country, (2) **emigrate** for better opportunities

Many people **emigrated** from Ireland to America during the Great Famine.

crackdown

n. a severe or forceful attempt to suppress or control something, such as illegal or disruptive behavior

synonym: clampdown, sweep, repression

(1) a citywide **crackdown**, (2) strict **crackdown**

The government announced a **crackdown** on illegal activities in the city.

steer

v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

synonym : guide, direct, control

(1) **steer** a steady course, (2) **steer** a conversation

The captain told him to **steer** the ship north.

dissident

n. a person who opposes the policies or actions of a government or other authority, often publicly and openly; a rebel or revolutionary

synonym : dissenter, rebel, protester

(1) **dissident** activities, (2) outspoken **dissident**

The government's security forces constantly monitored the **dissident** politician.

frightening

adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

synonym : scary, terrifying, alarming

(1) cast **frightening** eyes, (2) **frightening** experience

The news of the pandemic was a **frightening** reminder of the fragility of human health.

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**.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

bioethics

n. the study of ethical issues related to life sciences and healthcare, particularly those related to the moral implications of scientific advances in medicine and

biology

synonym: medical ethics, bio-morality

(1) **bioethics** committee, (2) **bioethics** research

Using animals in medical research raises complex questions about **bioethics** and animal welfare.

neuron

n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

synonym: nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

minuscule

adj. extremely small; tiny

synonym: tiny, insignificant, microscopic

(1) **minuscule** amount, (2) **minuscule** letters

This ore emits **minuscule** quantities of radiation

electroencephalography

v. (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions

synonym: brain wave test, EEG, neural scan

(1) **electroencephalography** test, (2) abnormal **electroencephalography**

She is an **electroencephalography** technician skilled in performing EEG tests on patients.

decode

v. to convert something, such as a message or piece of information, from a specific form into one that you can understand

synonym: decipher, translate, interpret

(1) **decode** a message, (2) ability to **decode** the differences

The software could **decode** the encrypted data and reveal the hidden information.

epilepsy

n. a neurological disorder characterized by recurrent seizures or convulsions, which can manifest in a variety of ways and be caused by various factors

synonym: seizures, convulsions, fits

(1) **epilepsy** seizure, (2) **epilepsy** medication

The flashing lights at the concert triggered her **epilepsy** and caused a seizure.

paraplegia

n. a form of paralysis that affects all or part of the lower body, typically caused by injury to the spinal cord or nervous system

synonym: spinal cord injury, paralysis

(1) **paraplegia** treatment, (2) traumatic **paraplegia**

After his accident, he was left with **paraplegia** and had to use a wheelchair.

embed

v. to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass

synonym: entrench, fix, set

(1) **embed** scripts in the message, (2) **embed** a sensor

The company **embedded** a tracking code in the product's packaging to monitor its shipment.

distract

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

synonym: divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

wane

v. to decrease in size, strength, or intensity

synonym: decrease, diminish, fade

(1) **wane** over time, (2) **wane** in popularity

The fragrance of this material **wanes** over weeks to months.

proponent

n. a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause

synonym: advocate, devotee, follower

(1) enthusiastic **proponent**, (2) **proponent** of world peace
Einstein was a **proponent** of the theory of relativity.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
synonym: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

well-being

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
synonym: health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**
We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

involuntary

adj. acting or done without or against one's will
synonym: coerced, forced, automatic

(1) **involuntary** manslaughter, (2) **involuntary** muscles

The drug's side effects can include **involuntary** loss of urine.

bastion

n. a strong fortress or a stronghold that defends or protects
synonym: stronghold, fortification, bulwark

(1) **bastion** of good sense, (2) a **bastion** against corruption

The ancient fortification served as a **bastion** of defense against invaders for centuries.

agitation

n. a state of anxiety, excitement, or disturbance that is often associated with restlessness, agitation, or nervousness; the act of stirring or moving something in a rapid or erratic manner

synonym: excitement, restlessness, turmoil

(1) **agitation** levels, (2) political **agitation**

The crowd's **agitation** grew as the politician failed to answer their questions.

cancel

n. a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information

synonym: suppressor, scrutineer, examiner

(1) **cancel** a book, (2) **cancel** a TV program

The newspaper editor decided to **cancel** the controversial headline to avoid backlash.

ostracize

v. to exclude someone from a group or society by general consent; to avoid speaking to or dealing with intentionally

synonym: exclude, shun, isolate

(1) **ostracize** individual, (2) **ostracize** group

His peers **ostracized** him for his controversial beliefs.

contemplate

v. to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully

synonym: think over, ponder, consider

(1) **contemplate** a marriage, (2) **contemplated** leaving school

I recently **contemplated** dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.

consciously

adv. with awareness; in a deliberate manner

synonym: intentionally, deliberately, knowingly

(1) **consciously** aware of a problem, (2) act **consciously**

He **consciously** criticizes her in the publicity.

dystopia

n. an imaginary place where everything is extremely bad because of deprivation or oppression or terror, or a work of fiction describing those place

synonym: anti-utopia

(1) a crumbling **dystopia**, (2) the escape from **dystopia**

The loss of industry turned working-class neighborhoods into **dystopias**.

intimidate

v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

synonym : frighten, threaten, terrify

(1) **intimidate** an opponent, (2) effectively **intimidate** a thief

The boss tried to **intimidate** his subordinate with threats.

hallway

n. an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open

synonym : foyer, corridor, entrance

(1) the head of a **hallway**, (2) wax a **hallway** floor

He dashed down a **hallway** to a bathroom.

brink

n. the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place

synonym : edge, verge, threshold

(1) **brink** of war, (2) on the **brink**

We were on the **brink** of a financial crisis.

redress

v. to correct an error, a fault, or something bad

synonym : change, rectify, amend

(1) **redress** a person, (2) **redress** gender disparities

That monk tried to **redress** wrongs in his kingdom in a non-violent manner.

ruminate

v. to think deeply about something; to ponder

synonym : ponder, meditate, contemplate

(1) **ruminate** about the past, (2) **ruminate** over a problem

After a long work day, she likes to **ruminate** on her accomplishments and plan for the next day.

oppressive

adj. treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way

synonym : stifling, overwhelming, depressing

(1) the atmosphere was **oppressive**, (2) **oppressive** governments

The political situation has become increasingly **oppressive**.

innermost

adj. situated or occurring at the deepest or most central part or point; relating to one's deepest or most private thoughts, feelings, or experiences

synonym : deepest, inner, intimate

(1) **innermost** secrets, (2) **innermost** longings

It took years of therapy before the patient could reveal their **innermost** thoughts and feelings.

Session 2: Spelling

1. fri_____ng experience *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
2. mi_____le amount *adj.* extremely small; tiny
3. em__d a sensor *v.* to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
4. outspoken di_____nt *n.* a person who opposes the policies or actions of a government or other authority, often publicly and openly; a rebel or revolutionary
5. pr_____nt of world peace *n.* a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause
6. in_____st secrets *adj.* situated or occurring at the deepest or most central part or point; relating to one's deepest or most private thoughts, feelings, or experiences
7. mi_____le letters *adj.* extremely small; tiny
8. ru_____te over a problem *v.* to think deeply about something; to ponder
9. wax a ha_____y floor *n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
10. ep_____sy seizure *n.* a neurological disorder characterized by recurrent seizures or convulsions, which can manifest in a variety of ways and be caused by various factors
11. 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: 1. frightening, 2. minuscule, 3. embed, 4. dissident, 5. proponent, 6. innermost, 7. minuscule, 8. ruminates, 9. hallway, 10. epilepsy, 11. rev

- | | | |
|--|------|--|
| 12. em____r the secretary to do the same | v. | to give someone the power or authority to do something |
| 13. ep____sy medication | n. | a neurological disorder characterized by recurrent seizures or convulsions, which can manifest in a variety of ways and be caused by various factors |
| 14. em____r my life | v. | to give someone the power or authority to do something |
| 15. the atmosphere was opp____ve | adj. | treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way |
| 16. ele_____phy test | n. | (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions |
| 17. the wel_____ng of a nation | n. | the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous |
| 18. st__r a steady course | v. | to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone |
| 19. br__k of war | n. | the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place |
| 20. er__t into tears | v. | (of a volcano) to become active and eject rocks, smoke, etc.; to start abruptly and violently |
| 21. excite the ne____ns | n. | a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body |

ANSWERS: 12. empower, 13. epilepsy, 14. empower, 15. oppressive, 16. electroencephalography, 17. well-being, 18. steer, 19. brink, 20. erupt, 21. neuron

22. in_____st longings *adj.* situated or occurring at the deepest or most central part or point; relating to one's deepest or most private thoughts, feelings, or experiences
23. de___e a message *v.* to convert something, such as a message or piece of information, from a specific form into one that you can understand
24. con_____te a marriage *v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
25. strict cr_____wn *n.* a severe or forceful attempt to suppress or control something, such as illegal or disruptive behavior
26. re_____s gender disparities *v.* to correct an error, a fault, or something bad
27. w__e over time *v.* to decrease in size, strength, or intensity
28. con_____ted leaving school *v.* to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
29. political ag_____on *n.* a state of anxiety, excitement, or disturbance that is often associated with restlessness, agitation, or nervousness; the act of stirring or moving something in a rapid or erratic manner
30. di_____ct public opinion *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
31. abnormal
ele_____phy *n.* (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions

ANSWERS: 22. innermost, 23. decode, 24. contemplate, 25. crackdown, 26. redress, 27. wane, 28. contemplate, 29. agitation, 30. distract, 31. electroencephalography

32. ne___n cell body *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
33. cast fri_____ng eyes *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
34. act con_____ly *adv.* with awareness; in a deliberate manner
35. ce___r a book *n.* a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information
36. a sense of wel_____ng *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
37. opp_____ve governments *adj.* treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way
38. a theoretical concept in
neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
39. ability to de___e the differences *v.* to convert something, such as a message or piece of information, from a specific form into one that you can understand
40. ru_____te about the past *v.* to think deeply about something; to ponder
41. traumatic par_____ia *n.* a form of paralysis that affects all or part of the lower body, typically caused by injury to the spinal cord or nervous system

ANSWERS: 32. neuron, 33. frightening, 34. consciously, 35. censor, 36. well-being, 37. oppressive, 38. neuroscience, 39. decode, 40. ruminate, 41. paraplegia

- | | | |
|---|------|--|
| 42. di_____ct attention from the real issue | v. | to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do |
| 43. em_____te for better opportunities | v. | to leave one's country or region to settle in another |
| 44. the head of a ha_____y | n. | an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open |
| 45. bi_____cs committee | n. | the study of ethical issues related to life sciences and healthcare, particularly those related to the moral implications of scientific advances in medicine and biology |
| 46. em__d scripts in the message | v. | to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass |
| 47. a crumbling dy_____ia | n. | an imaginary place where everything is extremely bad because of deprivation or oppression or terror, or a work of fiction describing those place |
| 48. con_____ly aware of a problem | adv. | with awareness; in a deliberate manner |
| 49. enthusiastic pr_____nt | n. | a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause |
| 50. a citywide cr_____wn | n. | a severe or forceful attempt to suppress or control something, such as illegal or disruptive behavior |
| 51. inv_____ry muscles | adj. | acting or done without or against one's will |
| 52. ag_____on levels | n. | a state of anxiety, excitement, or disturbance that is often associated with restlessness, agitation, or nervousness; the act of stirring or moving something in a rapid or erratic manner |

ANSWERS: 42. distract, 43. emigrate, 44. hallway, 45. bioethics, 46. embed, 47. dystopia, 48. consciously, 49. proponent, 50. crackdown, 51. involuntary, 52. agitation

53. 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
54. di_____nt activities *n.* a person who opposes the policies or actions of a government or other authority, often publicly and openly; a rebel or revolutionary
55. ce____r a TV program *n.* a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information
56. a ba_____n against corruption *n.* a strong fortress or a stronghold that defends or protects
57. int_____te an opponent *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
58. the escape from dy_____ia *n.* an imaginary place where everything is extremely bad because of deprivation or oppression or terror, or a work of fiction describing those place
59. em_____te to a new country *v.* to leave one's country or region to settle in another
60. os_____ze group *v.* to exclude someone from a group or society by general consent; to avoid speaking to or dealing with intentionally
61. effectively int_____te a thief *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

ANSWERS: 53. rev, 54. dissident, 55. censor, 56. bastion, 57. intimidate, 58. dystopia, 59. emigrate, 60. ostracize, 61. intimidate

62. par_____ia treatment *n.* a form of paralysis that affects all or part of the lower body, typically caused by injury to the spinal cord or nervous system
63. ba_____n of good sense *n.* a strong fortress or a stronghold that defends or protects
64. inv_____ry manslaughter *adj.* acting or done without or against one's will
65. on the br__k *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
66. the branch of neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
67. os_____ze individual *v.* to exclude someone from a group or society by general consent; to avoid speaking to or dealing with intentionally
68. re_____s a person *v.* to correct an error, a fault, or something bad
69. w__e in popularity *v.* to decrease in size, strength, or intensity
70. st__r a conversation *v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
71. bi_____cs research *n.* the study of ethical issues related to life sciences and healthcare, particularly those related to the moral implications of scientific advances in medicine and biology
72. er__t in anger *v.* (of a volcano) to become active and eject rocks, smoke, etc.; to start abruptly and violently

ANSWERS: 62. paraplegia, 63. bastion, 64. involuntary, 65. brink, 66. neuroscience, 67. ostracize, 68. redress, 69. wane, 70. steer, 71. bioethics, 72. erupt

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The software could _____ the encrypted data and reveal the hidden information.
 - v. to convert something, such as a message or piece of information, from a specific form into one that you can understand

2. His peers _____ him for his controversial beliefs.
 - v. to exclude someone from a group or society by general consent; to avoid speaking to or dealing with intentionally

3. The captain told him to _____ the ship north.
 - v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

4. Our body transfers information along each _____ using an electrical impulse.
 - n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

5. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.
 - v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

6. The boss tried to _____ his subordinate with threats.
 - v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

7. After his accident, he was left with _____ and had to use a wheelchair.
 - n. a form of paralysis that affects all or part of the lower body, typically caused by injury to the spinal cord or nervous system

ANSWERS: 1. decode, 2. ostracized, 3. steer, 4. neuron, 5. distract, 6. intimidate, 7. paraplegia

8. The fragrance of this material _____ over weeks to months.
v. to decrease in size, strength, or intensity
9. I recently _____ dropping out of school and getting a full-time job.
v. to think about a possible future action or to think about something for a long time thoughtfully
10. It took years of therapy before the patient could reveal their _____ thoughts and feelings.
adj. situated or occurring at the deepest or most central part or point; relating to one's deepest or most private thoughts, feelings, or experiences
11. He dashed down a _____ to a bathroom.
n. an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
12. He _____ criticizes her in the publicity.
adv. with awareness; in a deliberate manner
13. The political situation has become increasingly _____.
adj. treating people in a cruel and authoritarian way
14. She is an _____ technician skilled in performing EEG tests on patients.
n. (also "EEG") a diagnostic medical procedure that involves the use of electrodes placed on the scalp to measure and record the electrical activity of the brain often used to assess and diagnose various neurological conditions
15. The government's security forces constantly monitored the _____ politician.
n. a person who opposes the policies or actions of a government or other authority, often publicly and openly; a rebel or revolutionary

ANSWERS: 8. wanes, 9. contemplated, 10. innermost, 11. hallway, 12. consciously, 13. oppressive, 14. electroencephalography, 15. dissident

16. The drug's side effects can include _____ loss of urine.

adj. acting or done without or against one's will

17. Battles between whites and blacks _____ immediately.

v. (of a volcano) to become active and eject rocks, smoke, etc.; to start abruptly and violently

18. The flashing lights at the concert triggered her _____ and caused a seizure.

n. a neurological disorder characterized by recurrent seizures or convulsions, which can manifest in a variety of ways and be caused by various factors

19. The ancient fortification served as a _____ of defense against invaders for centuries.

n. a strong fortress or a stronghold that defends or protects

20. Using animals in medical research raises complex questions about _____ and animal welfare.

n. the study of ethical issues related to life sciences and healthcare, particularly those related to the moral implications of scientific advances in medicine and biology

21. This ore emits _____ quantities of radiation

adj. extremely small; tiny

22. Many people _____ from Ireland to America during the Great Famine.

v. to leave one's country or region to settle in another

23. Einstein was a _____ of the theory of relativity.

n. a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause

ANSWERS: 16. involuntary, 17. erupted, 18. epilepsy, 19. bastion, 20. bioethics, 21. minuscule, 22. emigrated, 23. proponent

24. The newspaper editor decided to _____ the controversial headline to avoid backlash.
- n.* a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information
25. The company _____ a tracking code in the product's packaging to monitor its shipment.
- v.* to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
26. We were on the _____ of a financial crisis.
- n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
27. 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
28. After a long work day, she likes to _____ on her accomplishments and plan for the next day.
- v.* to think deeply about something; to ponder
29. The loss of industry turned working-class neighborhoods into _____.
- n.* an imaginary place where everything is extremely bad because of deprivation or oppression or terror, or a work of fiction describing those place
30. The news of the pandemic was a _____ reminder of the fragility of human health.
- adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

ANSWERS: 24. censor, 25. embedded, 26. brink, 27. rev, 28. ruminate, 29. dystopias, 30. frightening

31. The crowd's _____ grew as the politician failed to answer their questions.
n. a state of anxiety, excitement, or disturbance that is often associated with restlessness, agitation, or nervousness; the act of stirring or moving something in a rapid or erratic manner
32. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
33. That monk tried to _____ wrongs in his kingdom in a non-violent manner.
v. to correct an error, a fault, or something bad
34. The government announced a _____ on illegal activities in the city.
n. a severe or forceful attempt to suppress or control something, such as illegal or disruptive behavior
35. We are responsible for the care and _____ of all our employees.
n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
36. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

ANSWERS: 31. agitation, 32. neuroscience, 33. redress, 34. crackdown, 35. well-being, 36. empowered