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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

David Rockwell: The hidden ways stairs shape your life | TED Talk

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

_ways_stairs_shape_your_life



All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

emotional

adj. relating to people's feelings

synonym: affecting, impactful, impressive

(1) emotional health, (2) emotional distress

Human **emotional** responses vary widely depending on the society to which they belong.

architect

 a person whose job is to design plans to be used in making something, such as buildings

synonym: creator, designer, planner

(1) landscape **architect**, (2) **architect** of the peace accord The building **architect** tried to build the house above the tree.

elevation

n. the height of something above sea level or above the ground; the event of something being raised upward

synonym: height, altitude, rise

at an elevation of 1000 feet, (2) elevation in rank
 The elevation of the mountain made it difficult to breathe.

vertical

adj. upright or perpendicular to a horizontal surface or line

synonym: perpendicular, upright, plumb

(1) vertical takeoff, (2) vertical axis

The ladder leaned against the vertical surface of the

building.

separate

- v. to force, take, or pull apart; mark as different synonym: disunite, isolate, ramify
- (1) **separate** video into chapter, (2) **separate** cream from milk

We need to **separate** the aspect of his personality from the part of his competence when making an investment decision.

tread

v. to step or walk on something

synonym: step, walk, pace

(1) **tread** water, (2) **tread** a similar path He **treads** carefully on the slippery ice.

string

 long, thin material used for tying things together, composed of several twisted threads

synonym: line, wire, rope

(1) retie the **string** and make it strong, (2) tense piano **strings**

She wore a **string** of pearls around her neck.

assume

v. to think or accept something to be true without having proof of it; to take or begin to have power; to begin to exhibit a specific quality or appearance

synonym: guess, presume, suppose

(1) **assume** a lousy attitude to his boss, (2) **assume** an important role

The following example **assumes** that the capacity of each battery is the same.

pathway

n. a track that constitutes or serves as a path; an approach or a way of doing something

synonym: route, footpath, trail

(1) **pathway** to understanding, (2) cellular signaling **pathways**

When the first molecule in the pathway receives a signal, it

activates other molecules.

staircase

 a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side

synonym: stairway, stairwell

(1) spiral **staircase**, (2) beetle up the **staircase**She walked urgently down the emergency **staircase**.

pyramid

n. a polyhedron having a polygonal base and triangular sides with a common vertex; a massive monument with a square base and four triangular sides, begun by Cheops around 2700 BC as royal tombs in ancient Egypt

synonym: monument, edifice, tomb

pyramid architecture, (2) a truncated pyramid
 The Egyptian pyramids consist of a vast number of blocks.

mount

v. to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone

synonym: climb, increase, get on

(1) **mount** a hill, (2) **mount** a counterattack
They **mounted** pictures on the paper in preparation for the birthday card.

worship

- v. to have or show a strong feeling of profound respect and admiration for a religious entity such as God or a god
 synonym: adore, idolize
- (1) **worship** god, (2) absolutely **worship** They traditionally **worship** their guru.

engineer

 a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software

synonym: architect, creator, builder

(1) a civil **engineer**, (2) **engineer** shortage

The **engineer** will repair my telephone tomorrow morning.

evolve

v. to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually

synonym: develop, mature, grow

(1) **evolve**, (2) **evolve** over the past decade

Eyeless fish **evolved** in dark caves.

practical

adj. of or connected with actual use or real situation rather than with theory and ideas

synonym: applicable, functional, realistic

(1) practical English, (2) gain practical experience

Her concept is highly **practical** and helpful.

linear

adj. of, relating to, or consisting of lines or length; able to be expressed as a straight line, especially on a graphsynonym: straight, direct, right

synonym: Straight, and ot, fight

(1) linear trend, (2) a linear equation

People tend to make **linear** predictions.

spiral

- a curve that coils around a central point and gets progressively farther away from it as it goes around
- synonym: coil, helix, twist
- (1) spiral staircase, (2) spiral design

The leaves of the fern were arranged in a **spiral** pattern.

indoor

- adj. located, happened, or used inside a building
- (1) an **indoor** pool, (2) designed for **indoor** use

Table tennis is an **indoor** sport.

outdoors

adv. in or into the open air; outside a building or structure

synonym: outside, al fresco, in the open air

(1) exhausted **outdoors**, (2) sleep **outdoors**

She loves to hike **outdoors** and explore nature.

emergency

 a sudden unforeseen crisis usually involving danger that requires immediate action

synonym: crisis, trouble, difficulty

(1) emergency action, (2) acute emergency The president declared a state of **emergency**.

stairway

- a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety synonym: staircase, steps
- (1) stairway railing, (2) narrow stairway

The grand entrance hall had a magnificent marble **stairway** that curved gracefully upwards.

dictate

- to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded synonym: read out, prescribe, order
- (1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

pace

- the speed at which someone or something moves, or the rate at which something happens or changes synonym: gait, rate, speed
- (1) at your own pace, (2) the runner's pace The economy is growing at a supercharged **pace**.

relation

the way two persons or groups of people feel and act toward one another

synonym: association, linkage, connection

(1) **relation** between cause and effect, (2) **relation** of inclusion

The industrial **relations** laws were passed with little to no alteration.

engagement

- a mutual promise to marry someone; an agreement to do something, especially at a particular time synonym: betrothal, promise, commitment
- (1) a prior engagement, (2) break off an engagement They selected a gorgeous diamond **engagement** ring.

gradual

adj. happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt

synonym: incremental, gradational, piecemeal

(1) a gradual process, (2) a gradual change

The country experienced a **gradual** increase in population.

monumental

adj. great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive

synonym: massive, awesome, enormous

(1) monumental task, (2) monumental sculpture

Everyone, even non-scholars, knows Einstein's **monumental** contributions to physics.

steady

adj. firmly fixed, supported, or balanced; not shaking or moving

synonym: stable, solid, secure

(1) **steady** increase, (2) take a **steady** job

The patient's vital signs are **steady**, indicating a stable condition.

spill

v. to cause or allow liquid to run or flow over the edge of its container by accident

synonym: slop, drop, scatter

(1) **spill** a bit of wine, (2) **spill** my heart

He was determined to **spill** everything.

encounter

v. to face something, particularly something unpleasant or difficult, while attempting to do something else; to meet, especially unexpectedly

synonym: meet, run into, come across

(1) encounter a crisis, (2) encounter a storm

I'm prepared to **encounter** challenges throughout this adventure.

enormous

adj. extremely large or great

synonym: huge, giant, gigantic

(1) enormous amount, (2) enormous potential

Shakespeare's output of poetry was **enormous**.

drama

n. a play in a theatre, television, or radio, or performance on a stage

synonym: acting, play, theater

(1) secular drama, (2) upcoming crime drama

She had an audition for drama school.

grand

adj. important and large in size, scope, or extent

synonym: impressive, great, ambitious

(1) a grand meal, (2) grand bargain

This year's **grand** gathering will be held in Canada.

heroic

 adj. courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring

synonym: brave, courageous, daring

(1) a **heroic** poem, (2) **heroic** explorers

The **heroic** actions of individuals are now easily spread worldwide by SNS.

dub

 to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language

synonym: name, designate, nickname

(1) **dub** the film in English, (2) **dub** data

We **dubbed** him Ironman because of his toughness.

stoop

 to bend forward and downward from the waist, often to pick something up or gain a better view; to lower oneself morally or socially

synonym: bend, crouch, bow

(1) **stoop** forward in the chair, (2) **stoop** to conquer I had to **stoop** down to pick up the coin that had rolled under the couch.

invite

v. to ask someone to come or join; to offer an opportunity or possibility for something to happen or take place

synonym: ask, request, summon

(1) **invite** guests, (2) **invite** criticism

We want to **invite** you to our annual charity event.

blast

 explosion, or a strong current of air, usually caused by an explosion; a sudden, thunderous noise

synonym: blow, burst, explosion

(1) a blast of wind, (2) an icy blast

The **blast** shattered the laboratory equipment.

fascinating

adj. extremely interesting

synonym: alluring, intriguing, captivating

(1) **fascinating** story, (2) completely **fascinating** to me The museum houses a **fascinating** collection of Celtic artifacts.

inhabit

v. to live in a specific location; to reside

synonym: settle, occupy, populate

(1) inhabit a cave, (2) inhabit the stomach

I have no idea what sort of folks inhabit the neighborhood.

halfway

adj. in or at a point midway or an equal distance between two points

synonym: middle, median, center

(1) **halfway** through my journey, (2) **halfway** decent job The famous restaurant stands **halfway** up the hill.

magical

adj. produced by or containing supernatural powers *synonym*: enchanting, occult, supernatural

(1) magical place, (2) magical powers

When I was a child, my mother often cast **magical** spells to ease my pain whenever I was injured.

Session 2: Spelling

1. a he___c poem

2. mo t a counterattack

3. an icy bl__t

4. take a st___y job

5. en____er a storm

6. em al health

sleep ou____rs

8. as___e an important role

9. a li r equation

 adj. courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring

v. to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone

 explosion, or a strong current of air, usually caused by an explosion; a sudden, thunderous noise

adj. firmly fixed, supported, or balanced; not shaking or moving

v. to face something, particularly something unpleasant or difficult, while attempting to do something else; to meet, especially unexpectedly

adj. relating to people's feelings

adv. in or into the open air; outside a building or structure

 to think or accept something to be true without having proof of it; to take or begin to have power; to begin to exhibit a specific quality or appearance

adj. of, relating to, or consisting of lines or length; able to be expressed as a straight line, especially on a graph

ANSWERS: 1. heroic, 2. mount, 3. blast, 4. steady, 5. encounter, 6. emotional, 7. outdoors, 8. assume, 9. linear

10.	spiral stse	n.	a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side
11.	beetle up the stse	n.	a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side
12.	d_b the film in English	v.	to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language
13.	a truncated pyd	n.	a polyhedron having a polygonal base and triangular sides with a common vertex; a massive monument with a square base and four triangular sides, begun by Cheops around 2700 BC as royal tombs in ancient Egypt
14.	monal sculpture	adj.	great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive
15.	int the stomach	v.	to live in a specific location; to reside
16.	gain pral experience	adj.	of or connected with actual use or real situation rather than with theory and ideas
17.	ener shortage	n.	a person whose job is designing, building, or maintaining something such as machines, structures, or software
18.	enus amount	adj.	extremely large or great
19.	pay to understanding	n.	a track that constitutes or serves as a path; an approach or a way of doing something

ANSWERS: 10. staircase, 11. staircase, 12. dub, 13. pyramid, 14. monumental, 15. inhabit, 16. practical, 17. engineer, 18. enormous, 19. pathway

20. stay railing	n.	a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety
21. maI place	adj.	produced by or containing supernatural powers
22. a grd meal	adj.	important and large in size, scope, or extent
23. spl design	n.	a curve that coils around a central point and gets progressively farther away from it as it goes around
24. ine guests	v.	to ask someone to come or join; to offer an opportunity or possibility for something to happen or take place
25. sty increase	adj.	firmly fixed, supported, or balanced; not shaking or moving
26. absolutely wop	v.	to have or show a strong feeling of profound respect and admiration for a religious entity such as God or a god
27. wop god	v.	to have or show a strong feeling of profound respect and admiration for a religious entity such as God or a god
28. eve	<i>v</i> .	to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually
29. monal task	adj.	great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive
30. spl staircase	n.	a curve that coils around a central point

ANSWERS: 20. stairway, 21. magical, 22. grand, 23. spiral, 24. invite, 25. steady, 26. worship, 27. worship, 28. evolve, 29. monumental, 30. spiral

and gets progressively farther away

from it as it goes around

31.	emcy action	n.	a sudden unforeseen crisis usually involving danger that requires immediate action
32.	completely fasng to me	adj.	extremely interesting
33.	pral English	adj.	of or connected with actual use or real situation rather than with theory and ideas
34.	hay through my journey	adj.	in or at a point midway or an equal distance between two points
35.	reon of inclusion	n.	the way two persons or groups of people feel and act toward one another
36.	die to the associate	ν.	to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
37.	grd bargain	adj.	important and large in size, scope, or extent
38.	trd a similar path	<i>v</i> .	to step or walk on something
39.	designed for inr use	adj.	located, happened, or used inside a building
40.	fasng story	adj.	extremely interesting
41.	stp to conquer	v.	to bend forward and downward from the waist, often to pick something up or gain a better view; to lower oneself morally or socially
42.	lir trend	adj.	of, relating to, or consisting of lines or length; able to be expressed as a straight line, especially on a graph

ANSWERS: 31. emergency, 32. fascinating, 33. practical, 34. halfway, 35. relation, 36. dictate, 37. grand, 38. tread, 39. indoor, 40. fascinating, 41. stoop, 42. linear

43. at an el on of 1000 feet the height of something above sea level n. or above the ground; the event of something being raised upward adv. in or into the open air; outside a building 44. exhausted ou rs or structure 45. tr d water to step or walk on something ν . 46. ha____y decent job adj. in or at a point midway or an equal distance between two points 47. ev e over the past decade to develop gradually, or to cause the development of something or someone gradually the speed at which someone or 48. the runner's p e n. something moves, or the rate at which something happens or changes a play in a theatre, television, or radio, 49. upcoming crime dr a n. or performance on a stage 50. a gr I change

51. secular dr a

52. sp | I my heart

53. sp__I a bit of wine

54. a gr I process

- adj. happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupta play in a theatre, television, or radio
- n. a play in a theatre, television, or radio, or performance on a stage
- v. to cause or allow liquid to run or flow over the edge of its container by accident
- v. to cause or allow liquid to run or flow over the edge of its container by accident
- adj. happening slowly over a long period of time or distance; not steep or abrupt

ANSWERS: 43. elevation, 44. outdoors, 45. tread, 46. halfway, 47. evolve, 48. pace, 49. drama, 50. gradual, 51. drama, 52. spill, 53. spill, 54. gradual

55.	ener a crisis	v.	to face something, particularly something unpleasant or difficult, while attempting to do something else; to meet, especially unexpectedly
56.	arct of the peace accord	n.	a person whose job is to design plans to be used in making something, such as buildings
57.	pyd architecture	n.	a polyhedron having a polygonal base and triangular sides with a common vertex; a massive monument with a square base and four triangular sides, begun by Cheops around 2700 BC as royal tombs in ancient Egypt
58.	hec explorers	adj.	courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
59.	enus potential	adj.	extremely large or great
60.	d_b data	v.	to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language
61.	mot a hill	v.	to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone
62.	sete video into chapter	ν.	to force, take, or pull apart; mark as different

ANSWERS: 55. encounter, 56. architect, 57. pyramid, 58. heroic, 59. enormous, 60. dub, 61. mount, 62. separate

63.	veal axis	adj.	upright or perpendicular to a horizontal surface or line
64.	die a letter to secretary	<i>v</i> .	to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
65.	ase a lousy attitude to his boss	ν.	to think or accept something to be true without having proof of it; to take or begin to have power; to begin to exhibit a specific quality or appearance
66.	landscape arct	n.	a person whose job is to design plans to be used in making something, such as buildings
67.	narrow stay	n.	a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety
68.	int a cave	ν.	to live in a specific location; to reside
69.	emal distress	adj.	relating to people's feelings
70.	tense piano stgs	n.	long, thin material used for tying things together, composed of several twisted threads
71.	a prior engnt	n.	a mutual promise to marry someone; an agreement to do something, especially at a particular time
72.	ine criticism	<i>v</i> .	to ask someone to come or join; to offer an opportunity or possibility for something to happen or take place
73.	reon between cause and effect	n.	the way two persons or groups of people feel and act toward one another

ANSWERS: 63. vertical, 64. dictate, 65. assume, 66. architect, 67. stairway, 68. inhabit, 69. emotional, 70. string, 71. engagement, 72. invite, 73. relation

74.	stp forward in the chair	<i>v</i> .	to bend forward and downward from the waist, often to pick something up or gain a better view; to lower oneself morally or socially
75.	break off an engnt	n.	a mutual promise to marry someone; an agreement to do something, especially at a particular time
76.	cellular signaling pays	n.	a track that constitutes or serves as a path; an approach or a way of doing something
77.	at your own pe	n.	the speed at which someone or something moves, or the rate at which something happens or changes
78.	veal takeoff	adj.	upright or perpendicular to a horizontal surface or line
79.	retie the stg and make it strong	n.	long, thin material used for tying things together, composed of several twisted threads
80.	a blt of wind	n.	explosion, or a strong current of air, usually caused by an explosion; a sudden, thunderous noise
81.	elon in rank	n.	the height of something above sea level or above the ground; the event of something being raised upward
82.	sete cream from milk	<i>v</i> .	to force, take, or pull apart; mark as different
83.	maI powers	adj.	produced by or containing supernatural powers
84.	acute emcy	n.	a sudden unforeseen crisis usually involving danger that requires immediate action

ANSWERS: 74. stoop, 75. engagement, 76. pathway, 77. pace, 78. vertical, 79. string, 80. blast, 81. elevation, 82. separate, 83. magical, 84. emergency

- 85. a civil en___er
- 86. an in___r pool

- a person whose job is designing,
 building, or maintaining something such
 as machines, structures, or software
- adj. located, happened, or used inside a building

ANSWERS: 85. engineer, 86. indoor

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The ladder leaned against the surface of the building. adj. upright or perpendicular to a horizontal surface or line
 The of the mountain made it difficult to breathe. the height of something above sea level or above the ground; the event of something being raised upward
3. She had an audition for school.n. a play in a theatre, television, or radio, or performance on a stage
4. The patient's vital signs are indicating a stable condition. adj. firmly fixed, supported, or balanced; not shaking or moving
5. The leaves of the fern were arranged in a pattern.n. a curve that coils around a central point and gets progressively farther away from it as it goes around
6. Table tennis is an sport. adj. located, happened, or used inside a building
7. The shattered the laboratory equipment.n. explosion, or a strong current of air, usually caused by an explosion; a sudden thunderous noise
8. Human responses vary widely depending on the society to which they belong. adj. relating to people's feelings
ANSWERS: 1. vertical, 2. elevation, 3. drama, 4. steady, 5. spiral, 6. indoor, 7. blast 8. emotional

9.	The actions of individuals are now easily spread worldwide by SNS.
adj.	courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
	The grand entrance hall had a magnificent marble that curved gracefully upwards.
n.	a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety
11.	The industrial laws were passed with little to no alteration.
n.	the way two persons or groups of people feel and act toward one another
12.	They pictures on the paper in preparation for the birthday card.
<i>v</i> .	to increase, go up, or advance gradually or continuously; to prepare and supply with the necessary equipment for execution or performance; to ride on something or someone
13.	Shakespeare's output of poetry was
adj.	extremely large or great
14.	The famous restaurant stands up the hill.
adj.	in or at a point midway or an equal distance between two points
15.	Her concept is highly and helpful.
adj.	of or connected with actual use or real situation rather than with theory and ideas
16.	We want to you to our annual charity event.
<i>v</i> .	to ask someone to come or join; to offer an opportunity or possibility for something to happen or take place
	SWERS: 9. heroic, 10. stairway, 11. relations, 12. mounted, 13. enormous, 14. way, 15. practical, 16. invite

ANSWERS: 17. dubbed, 18. assumes, 19. linear, 20. pyramids, 21. outdoors, 22. stoop, 23. architect, 24. engineer

ANSWERS: 33. inhabit, 34. emergency, 35. gradual, 36. worship, 37. pace, 38. pathway, 39. evolved, 40. spill

to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody

Vocab-Builder Ref from "David Rockwell: The hidden ways stairs shape your life | TED Talk" (43 words)

ANSWERS: 41. treads, 42. engagement, 43. dictated

else to write down or to be recorded