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# Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Zachariah Mampilly: How protest is redefining democracy around the world | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/zachariah\_mampilly\_how\_ protest\_is\_redefining\_democracy\_around\_the\_world



# **Advanced Words Only**

#### **IMPORTANT**

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# **Session 1: Word List**

#### inefficient

adj. lacking the ability or skill and not making the best use of time, money, energy, etc.

synonym: ineffective, counterproductive, inadequate

(1) **inefficient** use, (2) **inefficient** management The system is still so **inefficient** that it is useless.

# pointless

adj. having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless

synonym: meaningless, purposeless, worthless

(1) **pointless** argument, (2) **pointless** task

The meeting was considered **pointless** since nothing was accomplished.

#### redefine

 to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

synonym: reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

#### elector

n. a person who has the right to vote in an electionsynonym: voter, constituent, citizen

# (1) presidential elector,(2) qualified for an electorThe elector cast their vote for the candidate they believed in.

# conceptualization

 the process of forming or developing an abstract idea or concept, often through the use of language or other symbolic representations

*synonym*: conception, formulation, thought

(1) **conceptualization** of a problem, (2) the **conceptualization** of the sculpture

The **conceptualization** of the project took several weeks to complete.

#### nonviolence

n. the use of peaceful means, such as civil disobedience or passive resistance, rather than violence to achieve a goal, especially in the context of political or social change

synonym: pacifism, nonresistance, peacekeeping

(1) **nonviolence** movement, (2) **nonviolence** protest Martin Luther King Jr. was a champion of **nonviolence** in the fight for civil rights.

#### entrenched

adj. established firmly and securelysynonym: deep-rooted, confirmed, ingrained

(1) **entrenched** ideas, (2) **entrenched** positions
The monarch exploited the peasants using its **entrenched** power.

# monarchy

- n. a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authoritysynonym: kingdom, realm, empire
- (1) monarchy system, (2) abolish monarchyThe monarchy government had been in power for centuries.

# dictator

 a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force

*synonym*: autocrat, tyrant, despot

(1) military **dictator**, (2) a **dictator** with enormous powers A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the **dictator**.

#### veneer

n. a thin layer of material applied to the surface of something for decoration or protection; a superficial or deceptive outward appearance that conceals the true nature of something beneath it

synonym: overlay, laminate, facing

(1) veneer knowledge, (2) veneer stone

The wooden table had a thin **veneer** of cherry wood on top, giving it a beautiful and glossy finish.

## enrich

v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

synonym: enhance, improve, augment

(1) **enrich** a gas with a balloon, (2) **enrich** public services Reading not only increases knowledge but also **enriches** life.

## colonize

 to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

*synonym*: settle, occupy, inhabit

(1) **colonize** planets, (2) **colonize** for cultivation European powers **colonized** much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

#### overthrow

v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force

*synonym*: defeat, destroy, conquer

(1) **overthrow** the government, (2) **overthrow** the theory The group aims to **overthrow** the military regime.

# austerity

n. the state or condition of being stern, rigid, or uncompromising, or being simple or plain; an economic policy or measure that seeks to reduce government spending and debt

synonym: frugality, nonindulgence, rigor

(1) impose austerity, (2) economic austerity

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The government's **austerity** measures have resulted in widespread protests and discontent.

#### autocratic

adj. having absolute power and forcing people to obey completely without asking

synonym: domineering, omnipotent, authoritarian

(1) in an **autocratic** manner, (2) **autocratic** regimes

That emperor amended the law to allow him to continue his **autocratic** rule even after he abdicated.

# shortcoming

a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect

synonym: deficiency, fault, weakness

(1) have a serious **shortcoming**, (2) the **shortcoming** in the system

The company's main **shortcoming** was a lack of innovation.

#### liberate

v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

synonym: emancipate, release, set free

(1) **liberate** people from oppression, (2) **liberate** potential The prisoners were **liberated** after the war ended.

# nongovernmental

*adj.* not belonging to or controlled by a government *synonym*: private, non-public, non-state

(1) **nongovernmental** aid worker, (2) **nongovernmental** agency

The **nongovernmental** organization works to promote human rights in developing countries.

#### detain

 to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving

synonym: hold, keep, detainment

(1) **detain** a terrorist, (2) **detain** for investigation. The police **detained** the suspect for questioning.

# outcry

- n. a strong expression of public protest, anger, or dissentsynonym: protest, objection, dissent
- (1) a great **outcry**, (2) national **outcry**

The **outcry** against the new policy was heard loud and clear by the government.

# upsurge

- a sudden and significant increase, a rise, or surge in something, especially in intensity or frequency
- synonym: surge, increase, rise
- (1) population **upsurge**, (2) an **upsurge** of emotion The country saw an **upsurge** in tourism after the new airport was built.

## urbanize

v. to make an area more urban in character or nature, often through the development and expansion of cities or towns

synonym: develop, modernize, city-build

(1) **urbanize** a region, (2) **urbanize** transportation systems The government plans to **urbanize** the rural area by building more housing units and improving transportation infrastructure.

# trickle

v. to flow or drip slowly and in small amounts; to happen or occur gradually or in small quantities

synonym: dribble, flow, seep

(1) **trickle** down my cheek, (2) **trickle** from his eyes Water was beginning to **trickle** into the basement after the heavy rain.

eke

v. to make a living or support oneself with difficulty or by supplementing one's income with additional work or resources; to manage or get by with what is available, often by means of careful or thrifty measures

synonym: supplement, stretch, squeeze out

(1) **eke** out a few extra dollars, (2) **eke** out a narrow victory He managed to **eke** out a living by doing odd jobs.

# skyrocket

- v. to rapidly ascend to a very high level; increase rapidly; synonym: rocket, soar, shoot up
- (1) **skyrocket** the cost, (2) price **skyrocketed**Production has decreased, but costs and unemployment have **skyrocketed** dramatically.

#### hallmark

 a distinctive characteristic or attribute of a person or thing

*synonym*: symbol, authentication, indication

(1) the **hallmark** of a good scientist, (2) the **hallmark** of modern life

A clear and simple expression is the **hallmark** of good writing.

# disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

# helpless

adj. unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help

synonym: defenseless, powerless, susceptible

(1) helpless baby, (2) helpless victimsI feel so helpless without you.

# diminish

v. to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

synonym: decline, dwindle, lessen

(1) **diminish** a reputation, (2) **diminish** swelling As people get old, their energies may **diminish**.

#### unseen

adj. not seen or noticed; not perceived synonym: invisible, hidden, undercover

(1) unseen danger, (2) an unseen force

The consequences of the pandemic remain **unseen** as scientists continue to research the virus.

## succumb

v. to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury

synonym: surrender, break down, die

(1) succumb to cancer, (2) succumb to old ageHe finally succumbed to temptation.

# exclusionary

adj. tending to exclude or keep out certain groups,
 individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others

synonym: discriminatory, exclusive, selective

(1) **exclusionary** clause, (2) **exclusionary** practices The new housing development faced criticism for its **exclusionary** policies towards lower-income residents.

#### nationalist

adj. relating to or supporting a political ideology that emphasizes a strong sense of national identity and devotion to one's own country

synonym: chauvinist, patriotic, jingoist

nationalist sentiment, (2) nationalist revolt
 The nationalist rally attracted thousands of supporters.

woe

- n. significant problems or troubles; great unhappinesssynonym: anguish, despair, suffering
- (1) economic woe, (2) full of woe

Recurrent financial woes hampered his subsequent career.

## disillusion

 to disappoint someone or something because you found that something you believed in or hoped for was not as it seemed

synonym: disenchant, disappoint, embitter

(1) **disillusion** the young, (2) **disillusion** him about reality She felt **disillusioned** with the management and decided to leave.

## able-bodied

adj. having a healthy and strong body capable of physical activities; not suffering from physical disabilities that limit movement or strength

synonym: capable, fit, healthy

(1) **able-bodied** worker, (2) **able-bodied** athlete The job posting required an **able-bodied** person for heavy lifting.

## confine

- v. to restrict the movement of someone or something synonym: restrict, limit, contain
- (1) **confine** themselves solely, (2) **confine** the scope of use The animal was **confined** in a small cage.

# contentious

adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue

synonym: antagonistic, combative, confrontational

(1) **contentious** subject, (2) **contentious** debate

There are many **contentious** issues in claiming a patent.

# devoid

adj. completely lacking or free from something synonym: empty, lacking, void

devoid of life, (2) air devoid of pollution
 The room was devoid of any furniture or decorations.

riot

 a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

synonym: disturbance, unrest, upheaval

(1) riot police, (2) riot control gas

The **riots** in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.

#### discredit

 to harm the reputation or credibility of someone or something; to make something appear untrue or unreliable

synonym: disprove, undermine, disgrace

(1) discredit a theory, (2) discredit a witness

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The company's unethical practices have **discredited** its brand image in the eyes of consumers.

#### harass

v. to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention

synonym: pester, annoy, bother

(1) **harass** the enemy, (2) **harass** with constant criticism She was constantly **harassed** by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.

persevere

v. to persist in the course of action, despite opposition or difficulty; to continue with determination despite setbacks, obstacles, or discouragement

*synonym*: persist, endure, continue

(1) **persevere** through hardships, (2) **persevere** in my goals Even when faced with challenges, it's important to **persevere** and never give up.

# **Session 2: Spelling**

co e the scope of use

1. en\_\_\_h public services v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

v. to restrict the movement of someone or something

3. nat\_\_\_\_st revolt \quad adj. relating to or supporting a political ideology that emphasizes a strong sense of national identity and devotion

to one's own country

national ou\_\_\_y 

n. a strong expression of public protest,

anger, or dissent

v. to flow or drip slowly and in small amounts; to happen or occur gradually or in small quantities

*n.* a person who has the right to vote in an election

adj. completely lacking or free from something

adj. completely lacking or free from something

 a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect

 a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

individuais

 to persist in the course of action, despite opposition or difficulty; to continue with determination despite setbacks, obstacles, or discouragement

2.

4.

5. tr\_\_\_e down my cheek

6. presidential el\_\_\_\_r

7. air de\_\_\_d of pollution

8. de\_\_\_d of life

9. have a serious sho\_\_\_\_ng

10. r\_\_t control gas

11. pe\_\_\_\_re through hardships

ANSWERS: 1. enrich, 2. confine, 3. nationalist, 4. outcry, 5. trickle, 6. elector, 7. devoid, 8. devoid, 9. shortcoming, 10. riot, 11. persevere

12.	in an autic manner	adj.	having absolute power and forcing people to obey completely without asking
13.	the shong in the system	n.	a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect
14.	nontal agency	adj.	not belonging to or controlled by a government
15.	military dior	n.	a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
16.	abled worker	adj.	having a healthy and strong body capable of physical activities; not suffering from physical disabilities that limit movement or strength
17.	enh a gas with a balloon	<i>v</i> .	to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
18.	ovow the theory	<i>v</i> .	to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
19.	a great ouy	n.	a strong expression of public protest, anger, or dissent
20.	qualified for an elr	n.	a person who has the right to vote in an election
21.	dit sleep	ν.	to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
22.	dison the young	<i>v</i> .	to disappoint someone or something because you found that something you believed in or hoped for was not as it

ANSWERS: 12. autocratic, 13. shortcoming, 14. nongovernmental, 15. dictator, 16. able-bodied, 17. enrich, 18. overthrow, 19. outcry, 20. elector, 21. disrupt, 22. disillusion

seemed

ANSWERS: 23. helpless, 24. urbanize, 25. dictator, 26. overthrow, 27. detain, 28. conceptualization, 29. redefine, 30. trickle, 31. harass

- v. to make a living or support oneself with difficulty or by supplementing one's income with additional work or resources; to manage or get by with what is available, often by means of careful or thrifty measures
- v. to harm the reputation or credibility of someone or something; to make something appear untrue or unreliable

ANSWERS: 32. riot, 33. persevere, 34. unseen, 35. detain, 36. colonize, 37. discredit, 38. austerity, 39. eke, 40. discredit

40. di it a theory

upsurge, 47. nonviolence, 48. contentious, 49. pointless, 50. nationalist

energy, etc.

to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

ANSWERS: 51. unseen, 52. urbanize, 53. helpless, 54. disillusion, 55. austerity, 56. exclusionary, 57. woe, 58. inefficient, 59. inefficient, 60. diminish

60. di sh swelling

ANSWERS: 61. harass, 62. eke, 63. autocratic, 64. woe, 65. skyrocket, 66. nonviolence, 67. diminish, 68. redefine, 69. succumb

ANSWERS: 70. able-bodied, 71. conceptualization, 72. entrenched, 73. skyrocket, 74. hallmark, 75. succumb, 76. veneer, 77. nongovernmental, 78. veneer

79.	poss argument	adj.	having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless
80.	conus subject	adj.	likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
81.	excary practices	adj.	tending to exclude or keep out certain groups, individuals, or ideas; characterized by the exclusion of others
82.	ented ideas	adj.	established firmly and securely
83.	mohy system	n.	a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
84.	abolish mohy	n.	a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
85.	lite potential	<i>v</i> .	to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
86.	population upe	n.	a sudden and significant increase, a rise, or surge in something, especially in intensity or frequency

ANSWERS: 79. pointless, 80. contentious, 81. exclusionary, 82. entrenched, 83. monarchy, 84. monarchy, 85. liberate, 86. upsurge

# **Session 3: Fill in the Blanks**

1.	The meeting was considered since nothing was accomplished.
adj	having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless
2.	Martin Luther King Jr. was a champion of in the fight for civil rights.
n.	the use of peaceful means, such as civil disobedience or passive resistance, rather than violence to achieve a goal, especially in the context of political or social change
3.	He finally to temptation.
v.	to fail to oppose something, such as desire, pressure, or some other opposing force; to die or suffer badly from the effect of a disease or injury
4.	The organization works to promote human rights in developing countries.
adj	not belonging to or controlled by a government
5.	Recurrent financial hampered his subsequent career.
n.	significant problems or troubles; great unhappiness
6.	Water was beginning to into the basement after the heavy rain.
v.	to flow or drip slowly and in small amounts; to happen or occur gradually or in small quantities
7.	The against the new policy was heard loud and clear by the government.
n.	a strong expression of public protest, anger, or dissent
	SWERS: 1. pointless, 2. nonviolence, 3. succumbed, 4. nongovernmental, 5. es, 6. trickle, 7. outcry

Vocab-Builder Ref from	"Zachariah Mampilly: Ho	ow protest is redefini	ng democracy around	the world   TED Talk"	(43 words)
urbanize, 21. dis	sillusioned, 22. co	ntentious, 23.	austerity		

40. I feel so without you.  adj. unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help	
41. That emperor amended the law to allow him to continue his rule even after he abdicated.	
adj. having absolute power and forcing people to obey completely without asking	
42. The government had been in power for centuries.	
<ul> <li>a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority</li> </ul>	
43. The company's main was a lack of innovation.	
n. a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect	

ANSWERS: 40. helpless, 41. autocratic, 42. monarchy, 43. shortcoming