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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mariana Atencio: What makes you special? | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
synonym : thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

campfire

n. an outdoor fire used for cooking, warmth, or light, often made by camping or in rural areas; a gathering or social event around such a fire

synonym : bonfire, blaze, fire pit

(1) **campfire** story, (2) roast marshmallows around the **campfire**

We sat around the **campfire** and told stories late into the night.

donkey

n. a domesticated mammal related to the horse, similar in appearance but with longer ears and a shorter mane; a foolish or stupid person

synonym : horse, burro, mule

(1) male **donkey**, (2) **donkey** ride

The little boy rode the **donkey** at the county fair.

canoe

n. a narrow, light boat with pointy ends and no keel that is propelled by a paddle

(1) **canoe** race, (2) make a **canoe** trip
After the accident, the police found an empty **canoe**.

spontaneously

adv. in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden

synonym: impromptu, automatically, immediately

(1) recover **spontaneously** after five days, (2) this shift occurs **spontaneously**

The electrical cord **spontaneously** combusted.

daydreaming

n. the act of thinking about something that you would prefer to be doing or have happened to you

synonym: reverie, cloud-castle, imagination

(1) stimulate **daydreaming**, (2) the mental process of **daydreaming**

I often waste a lot of time **daydreaming**.

headscarf

n. a piece of cloth worn on the head, often for religious or cultural reasons

synonym: hijab, shawl, veil

(1) traditional **headscarf**, (2) **headscarf** cloth

Some women choose to wear a **headscarf** as a symbol of their cultural identity and religious beliefs.

promenade

n. a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern

synonym: stroll, walkway, boulevard

(1) evening **promenade**, (2) **promenade** in the park

The boardwalk by the beach was a beautiful **promenade** for tourists and locals alike.

humanize

v. to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans

synonym : civilize, personalize

(1) **humanize** my pet, (2) **humanize** a room

The charity event aims to **humanize** the homeless rather than treat them as mere statistics.

trait

n. a particular feature of your nature

synonym : attribute, feature, quality

(1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**

Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

recite

v. to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,

synonym : repeat, replicate, recount

(1) **recite** a charm, (2) **recite** a long list of the article

He could **recite** all of Shakespeare's works.

monologue

n. a solo speech or performance given by one person, typically in a theatrical or storytelling context, and often used to reveal aspects of the speaker's thoughts, feelings, or backstory

synonym : soliloquy, speech, address

(1) inner **monologue**, (2) deliver a **monologue**

The actor's **monologue** was so powerful that the audience was moved to tears.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym : cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

dorm

n. a residence hall or building that provides living quarters for students or other occupants, typically on a college or university campus

synonym : residence hall, hostel, boarding house

(1) **dorm** room, (2) university **dorm**

Living in a **dorm** can be a great way to meet new people when you're in college.

erode

v. to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time

synonym : wear away, deteriorate, corrode

(1) **erode** coast, (2) **erode** trust

The ongoing budget cuts have **eroded** the quality of education in many schools.

eradicate

v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad

synonym : destroy, eliminate, exterminate

(1) **eradicate** the deficit, (2) **eradicate** racial discrimination

We are trying to **eradicate** this disease from the world.

trump

n. a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games

(1) **trump** card, (2) choose **trump**

The **trump** suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.

intolerant

adj. the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects

synonym : failure, impotence, shortcoming

(1) an **intolerant** person, (2) **intolerant** of criticism

His **intolerant** attitude towards other cultures made it difficult for him to get along with others.

narrow-minded

adj. having a limited or closed-minded perspective; lacking tolerance or acceptance of different or opposing views or ideas

synonym: narrow-minded, prejudiced, intolerant

(1) **narrow-minded** prejudice, (2) **narrow-minded** individual

Her **narrow-minded** views prevented her from considering other perspectives and hindered her ability to connect with others.

undocumented

adj. not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission

(1) **undocumented** worker, (2) **undocumented** command
The border patrol has recently been focusing on cracking down on **undocumented** non-citizens.

sob

v. to cry or weep with short, sudden sounds

synonym: cry, weep, wail

(1) **sob** out a story, (2) **sob** quietly

She **sobbed** uncontrollably after hearing the news.

deport

v. to force someone to leave a country, typically on the grounds of illegal status or for having committed a crime

synonym: expel, banish, repatriate

(1) **deport** a refugee, (2) **deport** dissidents from the party

The government has decided to **deport** illegal immigrants back to their home countries.

ingrained

adj. deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time

synonym: inborn, embedded, deep-seated

(1) **ingrained** habit, (2) **ingrained** prejudice

Her fear of dogs was **ingrained** after a traumatic experience in childhood.

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.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym : frightening, intimidating, alarming

(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

millennial

adj. relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y

synonym : thousand, (noun) Generation Y

(1) **millennial** record, (2) the **millennial** reign

Earth's ecosystems are greatly affected by **millennial-scale** changes in climate.

ordeal

n. a painful, difficult, or dangerous experience or trial; a severe test of endurance or patience

synonym : trial, hardship, torment

(1) **ordeal** by fire, (2) emotional **ordeal**

The car accident was a traumatic **ordeal** for everyone involved.

reimagine

v. to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

synonym : re-conceptualize, re-envision, re-create

(1) **reimagine** the future, (2) **reimagine** the possibilities

The company is trying to **reimagine** its business model to stay competitive.

neurological

adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

synonym : nervous, neural, brain-related

(1) fever with **neurological** signs, (2) **neurological** symptoms

The patient was diagnosed with a **neurological** disorder affecting their motor skills.

- veil** *n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure
synonym: cover, mask, (verb) conceal
(1) **veil** of mystery, (2) **veil** her face
He lifted her **veil** with both hands.
- mold** *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
synonym: cavity, cast, mildew
(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy
Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.
- humanist** *n.* a person who is concerned with the welfare and rights of all human beings; one who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and stresses the importance of human values and ethical principles
synonym: humanitarian, philanthropist, altruist
(1) **humanist** scholar, (2) **humanist** philosophy
The **humanist** counselor encouraged her clients to focus on their growth and well-being.
- rooftop** *n.* the upper surface or cover of a building's roof, often used for recreational or other purposes
synonym: roof, terrace, deck
(1) **rooftop** live, (2) **rooftop** deck
They held the dinner party on the **rooftop** terrace, enjoying the beautiful view of the city.
- imperfectly** *adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way
synonym: amiss, insufficiently, clumsily
(1) **imperfectly** developed, (2) **imperfectly** known disease
He created an **imperfectly** shaped torso.

quirk

n. a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group

synonym: eccentricity, idiosyncrasy, peculiarity

(1) personality **quirk**, (2) a **quirk** of fate

One of her **quirks** is that she always wears mismatched socks.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|---|----|---|
| 1. er__e coast | v. | to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time |
| 2. re___e a long list of the article | v. | to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory, |
| 3. roast marshmallows around the
ca_____re | n. | an outdoor fire used for cooking, warmth, or light, often made by camping or in rural areas; a gathering or social event around such a fire |
| 4. hu_____ze my pet | v. | to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans |
| 5. 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 |
| 6. pr_____de in the park | n. | a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern |
| 7. ca__e race | n. | a narrow, light boat with pointy ends and no keel that is propelled by a paddle |

ANSWERS: 1. erode, 2. recite, 3. campfire, 4. humanize, 5. steer, 6. promenade, 7. canoe

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 8. personality tr__ts | <i>n.</i> a particular feature of your nature |
| 9. choose tr__p | <i>n.</i> a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games |
| 10. an int_____nt person | <i>adj.</i> the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects |
| 11. nar_____ded individual | <i>adj.</i> having a limited or closed-minded perspective; lacking tolerance or acceptance of different or opposing views or ideas |
| 12. deliver a mo_____ue | <i>n.</i> a solo speech or performance given by one person, typically in a theatrical or storytelling context, and often used to reveal aspects of the speaker's thoughts, feelings, or backstory |
| 13. und_____ted command | <i>adj.</i> not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission |
| 14. ex___e the crowd | <i>v.</i> to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 15. re_____ne the future | <i>v.</i> to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way |
| 16. he_____rf cloth | <i>n.</i> a piece of cloth worn on the head, often for religious or cultural reasons |
| 17. s_b quietly | <i>v.</i> to cry or weep with short, sudden sounds |
| 18. er__e trust | <i>v.</i> to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time |

ANSWERS: 8. trait, 9. trump, 10. intolerant, 11. narrow-minded, 12. monologue, 13. undocumented, 14. excite, 15. reimagine, 16. headscarf, 17. sob, 18. erode

19. und_____ted worker *adj.* not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
20. the mil_____al reign *adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y
21. nar_____ded prejudice *adj.* having a limited or closed-minded perspective; lacking tolerance or acceptance of different or opposing views or ideas
22. ca_____re story *n.* an outdoor fire used for cooking, warmth, or light, often made by camping or in rural areas; a gathering or social event around such a fire
23. neu_____cal symptoms *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
24. a qu__k of fate *n.* a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group
25. inner mo_____ue *n.* a solo speech or performance given by one person, typically in a theatrical or storytelling context, and often used to reveal aspects of the speaker's thoughts, feelings, or backstory
26. ter_____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
27. a casting m__d *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

ANSWERS: 19. undocumented, 20. millennial, 21. narrow-minded, 22. campfire, 23. neurological, 24. quirk, 25. monologue, 26. terrifying, 27. mold

28. 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
29. m__d allergy *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
30. ro____p live *n.* the upper surface or cover of a building's roof, often used for recreational or other purposes
31. er_____te racial discrimination *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
32. v__l her face *n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure
33. evening pr____de *n.* a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
34. male do___y *n.* a domesticated mammal related to the horse, similar in appearance but with longer ears and a shorter mane; a foolish or stupid person
35. imp_____ly known disease *adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way

ANSWERS: 28. steer, 29. mold, 30. rooftop, 31. eradicate, 32. veil, 33. promenade, 34. donkey, 35. imperfectly

36. ro____p deck *n.* the upper surface or cover of a building's roof, often used for recreational or other purposes
37. s_b out a story *v.* to cry or weep with short, sudden sounds
38. mil_____al record *adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y
39. int_____nt of criticism *adj.* the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects
40. make a ca__e trip *n.* a narrow, light boat with pointy ends and no keel that is propelled by a paddle
41. in_____ed prejudice *adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
42. hu_____ze a room *v.* to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans
43. d__m room *n.* a residence hall or building that provides living quarters for students or other occupants, typically on a college or university campus
44. re_____ne the possibilities *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

ANSWERS: 36. rooftop, 37. sob, 38. millennial, 39. intolerant, 40. canoe, 41. ingrained, 42. humanize, 43. dorm, 44. reimagine

45. hu____st philosophy *n.* a person who is concerned with the welfare and rights of all human beings; one who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and stresses the importance of human values and ethical principles
46. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
47. v__l of mystery *n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure
48. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
49. personality qu__k *n.* a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group
50. emotional or____l *n.* a painful, difficult, or dangerous experience or trial; a severe test of endurance or patience
51. this shift occurs spo_____sly *adv.* in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden
52. recover spo_____sly after five days *adv.* in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden
53. imp_____ly developed *adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way
54. hu____st scholar *n.* a person who is concerned with the welfare and rights of all human beings; one who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and stresses the importance of human values and ethical principles

ANSWERS: 45. humanist, 46. determinant, 47. veil, 48. determinant, 49. quirk, 50. ordeal, 51. spontaneously, 52. spontaneously, 53. imperfectly, 54. humanist

55. re___e a charm *v.* to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,
56. in_____ed habit *adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
57. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
58. stimulate day_____ng *n.* the act of thinking about something that you would prefer to be doing or have happened to you
59. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
60. or___l by fire *n.* a painful, difficult, or dangerous experience or trial; a severe test of endurance or patience
61. tr__p card *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
62. de___t dissidents from the party *v.* to force someone to leave a country, typically on the grounds of illegal status or for having committed a crime
63. er_____te the deficit *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
64. do___y ride *n.* a domesticated mammal related to the horse, similar in appearance but with longer ears and a shorter mane; a foolish or stupid person
65. de___t a refugee *v.* to force someone to leave a country, typically on the grounds of illegal status or for having committed a crime

ANSWERS: 55. recite, 56. ingrained, 57. terrifying, 58. daydreaming, 59. excite, 60. ordeal, 61. trump, 62. deport, 63. eradicate, 64. donkey, 65. deport

66. the mental process of day_____ng *n.* the act of thinking about something that you would prefer to be doing or have happened to you
67. university d__m *n.* a residence hall or building that provides living quarters for students or other occupants, typically on a college or university campus
68. traditional he_____rf *n.* a piece of cloth worn on the head, often for religious or cultural reasons
69. fever with neu_____cal signs *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
70. chemical tr__t *n.* a particular feature of your nature

ANSWERS: 66. daydreaming, 67. dorm, 68. headscarf, 69. neurological, 70. trait

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Her fear of dogs was _____ after a traumatic experience in childhood.
adj. deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
2. The border patrol has recently been focusing on cracking down on _____ non-citizens.
adj. not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
3. Her _____ views prevented her from considering other perspectives and hindered her ability to connect with others.
adj. having a limited or closed-minded perspective; lacking tolerance or acceptance of different or opposing views or ideas
4. The boardwalk by the beach was a beautiful _____ for tourists and locals alike.
n. a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
5. The car accident was a traumatic _____ for everyone involved.
n. a painful, difficult, or dangerous experience or trial; a severe test of endurance or patience
6. The _____ counselor encouraged her clients to focus on their growth and well-being.
n. a person who is concerned with the welfare and rights of all human beings; one who believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person and stresses the importance of human values and ethical principles

ANSWERS: 1. ingrained, 2. undocumented, 3. narrow-minded, 4. promenade, 5. ordeal, 6. humanist

7. The patient was diagnosed with a _____ disorder affecting their motor skills.
adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
8. We sat around the _____ and told stories late into the night.
n. an outdoor fire used for cooking, warmth, or light, often made by camping or in rural areas; a gathering or social event around such a fire
9. The charity event aims to _____ the homeless rather than treat them as mere statistics.
v. to make something or someone more humane or compassionate; to make something more relatable or understandable to humans
10. We are trying to _____ this disease from the world.
v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
11. One of her _____ is that she always wears mismatched socks.
n. a peculiar behavior, habit, or characteristic that is distinctive to an individual or group
12. Earth's ecosystems are greatly affected by _____ changes in climate.
adj. relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y
13. The actor's _____ was so powerful that the audience was moved to tears.
n. a solo speech or performance given by one person, typically in a theatrical or storytelling context, and often used to reveal aspects of the speaker's thoughts, feelings, or backstory

ANSWERS: 7. neurological, 8. campfire, 9. humanize, 10. eradicate, 11. quirks, 12. millennial-scale, 13. monologue

14. His _____ attitude towards other cultures made it difficult for him to get along with others.
adj. the inability or refusal to accept or respect views, beliefs, or behavior that differ from someone's own; unable to eat food without adverse effects
15. They held the dinner party on the _____ terrace, enjoying the beautiful view of the city.
n. the upper surface or cover of a building's roof, often used for recreational or other purposes
16. Multiple genes may influence behavioral _____ concurrently.
n. a particular feature of your nature
17. The little boy rode the _____ at the county fair.
n. a domesticated mammal related to the horse, similar in appearance but with longer ears and a shorter mane; a foolish or stupid person
18. He lifted her _____ with both hands.
n. a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure
19. Living in a _____ can be a great way to meet new people when you're in college.
n. a residence hall or building that provides living quarters for students or other occupants, typically on a college or university campus
20. He created an _____ shaped torso.
adv. in a faulty or incomplete way
21. She _____ uncontrollably after hearing the news.
v. to cry or weep with short, sudden sounds

ANSWERS: 14. intolerant, 15. rooftop, 16. traits, 17. donkey, 18. veil, 19. dorm, 20. imperfectly, 21. sobbed

22. The company is trying to _____ its business model to stay competitive.
v. to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
23. The _____ suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.
n. a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
24. 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
25. The electrical cord _____ combusted.
adv. in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden
26. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
27. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.
adj. very frightening or intimidating
28. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
29. The government has decided to _____ illegal immigrants back to their home countries.
v. to force someone to leave a country, typically on the grounds of illegal status or for having committed a crime

ANSWERS: 22. reimagine, 23. trump, 24. steer, 25. spontaneously, 26. excited, 27. terrifying, 28. determinant, 29. deport

30. Some women choose to wear a _____ as a symbol of their cultural identity and religious beliefs.
- n.* a piece of cloth worn on the head, often for religious or cultural reasons
31. The ongoing budget cuts have _____ the quality of education in many schools.
- v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
32. I often waste a lot of time _____.
- n.* the act of thinking about something that you would prefer to be doing or have happened to you
33. He could _____ all of Shakespeare's works.
- v.* to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,
34. After the accident, the police found an empty _____.
- n.* a narrow, light boat with pointy ends and no keel that is propelled by a paddle
35. Mushrooms and _____ are fungi.
- n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

ANSWERS: 30. headscarf, 31. eroded, 32. daydreaming, 33. recite, 34. canoe, 35. mold