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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Lara Setrakian: 3 ways to fix a broken news industry |  
TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/lara\\_setrakian\\_3\\_ways\\_to\\_fix\\_a\\_broken\\_news\\_industry](https://www.ted.com/talks/lara_setrakian_3_ways_to_fix_a_broken_news_industry)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym*: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

### midpoint

*n.* the exact middle point or position between two things or places; a point that is equidistant from two other points

*synonym*: center point, halfway point

(1) **midpoint** formula, (2) **midpoint** theorem

The **midpoint** between New York City and Los Angeles is located in Kansas.

### oversea

*adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries

*synonym*: foreign, abroad, international

(1) **oversea** shipments, (2) for **oversea** use

The company enhanced **oversea** operations to tap into new markets.

### takeover

*n.* an act of taking control of something, especially the buying out of one company by another; an act of taking control of a country or an area by force

*synonym* : seizure, confiscation, expropriation

(1) a **takeover** of a company, (2) consolidation **takeover**

The **takeover** deal was worth a few tens of billions of dollars.

## **policymaker**

*n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

*synonym* : lawmaker, legislator

(1) education **policymaker**, (2) regional **policymaker**

**Policymakers** struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.

## **convene**

*v.* to come or bring together a group of people for a meeting or activity

*synonym* : assemble, gather, summon

(1) **convene** a press conference, (2) **convene** the council

The parliament will **convene** at 1 p.m. tomorrow.

## **trench**

*n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water

*synonym* : aqueduct, ditch, channel

(1) deep-sea **trench**, (2) **trench** excavator

A **trench** was being dug alongside the road by workers.

## **idealist**

*n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity

*synonym* : dreamer, idealizer, visionary

(1) **idealist** at heart, (2) an **idealist** perspective

As a dedicated **idealist**, she always fought for what was right, no matter the cost.

## **optimist**

*n.* a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future

*synonym* : positive thinker, dreamer, idealist

(1) **optimist** by nature, (2) excessive **optimist**

She is a confident **optimist** who always looks on the bright side.

## layoff

*n.* the temporary or permanent dismissal of employees from a company or organization due to a lack of work or financial difficulties; involuntary termination of employment

*synonym*: dismissal, redundancy, termination

(1) temporary **layoff**, (2) mass **layoff**

The workers protested against the unfairness of the **layoff**, claiming they should have been consulted first.

## Ebola

*n.* a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that causes severe fever and internal bleeding, primarily occurring in remote areas of Central and West Africa

*synonym*: viral hemorrhagic fever, EVD

(1) **Ebola** epidemic, (2) **Ebola** virus

The **Ebola** outbreak in West Africa caused widespread panic and fear.

## quarantine

*n.* a state of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease

*synonym*: isolation, confinement, restriction

(1) out of **quarantine**, (2) mandatory **quarantine**

Due to the outbreak, the government imposed a two-week **quarantine** for all travelers.

## intimidation

*n.* the act of instilling fear or anxiety in someone, often to make them feel inferior or submissive; the use of threats or coercion to deter someone from taking a certain course of action

*synonym*: frightening, bullying, harassment

(1) act of **intimidation**, (2) fear of **intimidation**

Using **intimidation** tactics in the workplace is unacceptable and should not be tolerated.

## **hysterical**

*adj.* marked by or in a state of excessive or uncontrollable emotion

*synonym* : agitated, frantic, crazy

(1) **hysterical** laughter, (2) get **hysterical** easily

The frustration that had accumulated for a long time made her **hysterical**.

## **simplistic**

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

*synonym* : basic, uncomplicated, elementary

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

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

## **pretension**

*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

*synonym* : presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

## **awaken**

*v.* to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping

*synonym* : rouse, arouse, revive

(1) **awaken** at daybreak, (2) **awaken** a child

The friend's death **awakens** them.

## **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.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. education pol\_\_\_\_\_er  
*n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
2. hys\_\_\_\_\_al laughter  
*adj.* marked by or in a state of excessive or uncontrollable emotion
3. an id\_\_\_\_\_st perspective  
*n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity
4. for ov\_\_\_\_\_a use  
*adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
5. pre\_\_\_\_\_on to authority  
*n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
6. mandatory qua\_\_\_\_\_ne  
*n.* a state of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease
7. sim\_\_\_\_\_ic approach  
*adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms

ANSWERS: 1. policymaker, 2. hysterical, 3. idealist, 4. oversea, 5. pretension, 6. quarantine, 7. simplistic

8. baseless pre\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
9. temporary la\_\_\_\_f *n.* the temporary or permanent dismissal of employees from a company or organization due to a lack of work or financial difficulties; involuntary termination of employment
10. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
11. a ta\_\_\_\_\_er of a company *n.* an act of taking control of something, especially the buying out of one company by another; an act of taking control of a country or an area by force
12. sim\_\_\_\_\_ic design *adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
13. Eb\_\_a virus *n.* a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that causes severe fever and internal bleeding, primarily occurring in remote areas of Central and West Africa
14. mi\_\_\_\_\_nt theorem *n.* the exact middle point or position between two things or places; a point that is equidistant from two other points
15. tr\_\_\_\_h excavator *n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water

ANSWERS: 8. pretension, 9. layoff, 10. industrious, 11. takeover, 12. simplistic, 13. Ebola, 14. midpoint, 15. trench

16. act of int\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the act of instilling fear or anxiety in someone, often to make them feel inferior or submissive; the use of threats or coercion to deter someone from taking a certain course of action
17. mass la\_\_\_\_f *n.* the temporary or permanent dismissal of employees from a company or organization due to a lack of work or financial difficulties; involuntary termination of employment
18. ov\_\_\_\_\_a shipments *adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
19. aw\_\_\_\_n a child *v.* to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping
20. re\_\_\_\_\_ne the possibilities *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
21. get hys\_\_\_\_\_al easily *adj.* marked by or in a state of excessive or uncontrollable emotion
22. consolidation ta\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* an act of taking control of something, especially the buying out of one company by another; an act of taking control of a country or an area by force
23. op\_\_\_\_\_st by nature *n.* a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future
24. co\_\_\_\_\_e the council *v.* to come or bring together a group of people for a meeting or activity
25. re\_\_\_\_\_ne the future *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

ANSWERS: 16. intimidation, 17. layoff, 18. oversea, 19. awaken, 20. reimagine, 21. hysterical, 22. takeover, 23. optimist, 24. convene, 25. reimagine

26. id\_\_\_\_st at heart *n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity
27. mi\_\_\_\_nt formula *n.* the exact middle point or position between two things or places; a point that is equidistant from two other points
28. excessive op\_\_\_\_st *n.* a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future
29. aw\_\_\_\_n at daybreak *v.* to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping
30. ind\_\_\_\_us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
31. Eb\_\_a epidemic *n.* a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that causes severe fever and internal bleeding, primarily occurring in remote areas of Central and West Africa
32. co\_\_\_\_e a press conference *v.* to come or bring together a group of people for a meeting or activity
33. deep-sea tr\_\_\_\_h *n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water
34. out of qua\_\_\_\_ne *n.* a state of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease

ANSWERS: 26. idealist, 27. midpoint, 28. optimist, 29. awaken, 30. industrious, 31. Ebola, 32. convene, 33. trench, 34. quarantine



35. regional pol\_\_\_\_\_er

*n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

36. fear of int\_\_\_\_\_ion

*n.* the act of instilling fear or anxiety in someone, often to make them feel inferior or submissive; the use of threats or coercion to deter someone from taking a certain course of action

ANSWERS: 35. policymaker, 36. intimidation

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ was being dug alongside the road by workers.  
*n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water
  
2. The company enhanced \_\_\_\_\_ operations to tap into new markets.  
*adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
  
3. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
  
4. The friend's death \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
*v.* to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping
  
5. The workers protested against the unfairness of the \_\_\_\_\_ claiming they should have been consulted first.  
*n.* the temporary or permanent dismissal of employees from a company or organization due to a lack of work or financial difficulties; involuntary termination of employment
  
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ outbreak in West Africa caused widespread panic and fear.  
*n.* a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that causes severe fever and internal bleeding, primarily occurring in remote areas of Central and West Africa
  
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ between New York City and Los Angeles is located in Kansas.  
*n.* the exact middle point or position between two things or places; a point that is equidistant from two other points

ANSWERS: 1. trench, 2. oversea, 3. industrious, 4. awakens, 5. layoff, 6. Ebola, 7. midpoint

8. The politician's solution to the problem was too \_\_\_\_\_ to solve the underlying issue.  
*adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ deal was worth a few tens of billions of dollars.  
*n.* an act of taking control of something, especially the buying out of one company by another; an act of taking control of a country or an area by force
10. As a dedicated \_\_\_\_\_ she always fought for what was right, no matter the cost.  
*n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity
11. The frustration that had accumulated for a long time made her \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* marked by or in a state of excessive or uncontrollable emotion
12. The company is trying to \_\_\_\_\_ its business model to stay competitive.  
*v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
13. The parliament will \_\_\_\_\_ at 1 p.m. tomorrow.  
*v.* to come or bring together a group of people for a meeting or activity
14. \_\_\_\_\_ struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.  
*n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
15. Due to the outbreak, the government imposed a two-week \_\_\_\_\_ for all travelers.  
*n.* a state of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease

ANSWERS: 8. simplistic, 9. takeover, 10. idealist, 11. hysterical, 12. reimagine, 13. convene, 14. Policymakers, 15. quarantine

16. Using \_\_\_\_\_ tactics in the workplace is unacceptable and should not be tolerated.
- n.* the act of instilling fear or anxiety in someone, often to make them feel inferior or submissive; the use of threats or coercion to deter someone from taking a certain course of action
17. His \_\_\_\_\_ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
- n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
18. She is a confident \_\_\_\_\_ who always looks on the bright side.
- n.* a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future

ANSWERS: 16. intimidation, 17. pretensions, 18. optimist