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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Erika Gregory: The world doesn't need more nuclear weapons | TED Talk

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

oesn_t_need_more_nuclear_weapons



Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

minibus

 a small bus designed to carry a limited number of passengers, usually between 8 and 15, often used for public transportation, shuttle services, or private hire

synonym: shuttle, van, microbus

(1) minibus taxi, (2) crowded minibus

I took a **minibus** to get to the city center since the bus service was disrupted.

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.

uninhabitable

adj. not suitable or safe for people to live in; lacking the necessary conditions for human habitation

synonym: desolate, dilapidated, unlivable

(1) **uninhabitable** conditions, (2) **uninhabitable** apartment The hurricane left many coastal areas **uninhabitable** for a long time.

bum

a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy,
 shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who

spends time doing nothing productive

synonym: hobo, vagrant, tramp

(1) homeless bum, (2) lazy bum

He used to be a successful businessman, but now he's a washed-up **bum** with nothing to show.

fallout

app

- n. the radioactive dust in the air that settle to the ground after a nuclear explosion
- (1) nuclear **fallout**, (2) the **fallout** from the incident they had no protection from the radioactive **fallout**.
- n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

synonym: application, software

(1) killer app, (2) cannot log in to the app

The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.

android

a robot with a human appearance; (operating system)
 Google's mobile operating system

synonym: droid, cyborg

(1) household **android**, (2) **Android** tablet

The lab is developing an **android** robot that assists in

dangerous construction work.

sham

 something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym: bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

- (1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**
- The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

arsenal

 a collection of weapons or military equipment stored in preparation for war or conflict; a collection of resources or tools available for use in a particular field or endeavor

synonym: storage, stockpile, armory

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(1) **arsenal** of knowledge, (2) political **arsenal**The police found a hidden **arsenal** of weapons in the suspect's house.

modernize

v. to bring up to date or make contemporary in style or function; to bring modern methods or resources into an existing organization or system

synonym: develop, update, upgrade

(1) **modernize** infrastructure, (2) **modernize** agriculture The company plans to **modernize** its outdated technology and software to improve efficiency.

grandchild

- n. a child of someone's son or daughtersynonym: offspring, descendant, progeny
- (1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

cyberwarfare

the use of digital technologies, such as hacking, viruses, and other malicious tactics, to disrupt, damage, or destroy computer systems, networks, and electronic devices, to cause harm to individuals, governments, or organizations

synonym: cyberattack, online warfare, digital warfare

(1) **cyberwarfare** defense, (2) **cyberwarfare** threats Experts warn that **cyberwarfare** attacks are becoming increasingly sophisticated and difficult to detect.

ahold

adv. to take hold of something, to grasp firmlysynonym: totally, completely, firmly

(1) grab **ahold** of the rope, (2) take **ahold** of the situation I was able to get **ahold** of the concert tickets before they sold out.

detonate

 to explode or cause to explode; to set off a sudden or dramatic series of events synonym: explode, blow up, ignite

(1) **detonate** a missile, (2) **detonate** a plan

The bomb squad had to **detonate** the suspicious package found at the train station.

airspace

the designated area above the surface of the earth n. where aircraft are allowed to fly, regulated by government authorities; the portion of the atmosphere above a particular location that is controlled by a specific country or organization

synonym: sky, zone, area

(1) airspace violation, (2) airspace restrictions The airplane entered restricted airspace and had to be escorted by fighter jets.

retaliate

to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, ν. especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person

synonym: get back, strike back, revenge

- (1) **retaliate** for the blow, (2) **retaliate** in a like fashion After the other team scored, we **retaliated** by playing even harder and scoring two quick goals.
- a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the astronaut n. Earth's atmosphere

synonym: spaceman, cosmonaut

(1) astronaut mission, (2) astronaut in training The shuttle **astronaut** trained for months before embarking on the space mission.

assassin

- a person who murders a prominent or well-known person for political reasons or in exchange for money synonym: killer, manslayer
- (1) fall victim to an assassin, (2) would-be assassin She hired an **assassin** to kill her opponent.

defer

v. to delay or hold back something until a later time; to refer to another source of authority

synonym: postpone, delay, hold off

(1) defer decision, (2) defer payment

I have to **defer** the meeting until next week.

superpower

 a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym: great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

extinguish

- v. to cause a fire to stop burning or light to stop shining synonym: quench, smother, blow out
- (1) **extinguish** a cigarette, (2) **extinguish** the street lamp Firefighters made every effort to **extinguish** the blaze immediately.

megaton

- n. a unit of energy equivalent to one million tons of TNT
- (1) megaton explosion, (2) megaton weapon

The power of a **megaton** bomb is equivalent to one million tons of TNT.

warhead

 the explosive or destructive part of a missile, rocket, or other weapons that are designed to explode on impact or detonation

synonym: payload, explosive

(1) warhead missile, (2) nuclear warhead

The missile launch was successful, and the **warhead** hit its intended target.

audacious

adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring;

marked by originality, creativity, or boldness *synonym*: bold, daring, fearless

(1) audacious stunt, (2) audacious decision

The young entrepreneur had an **audacious** plan to start his own company.

Renaissance

 a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music

synonym: rebirth, golden age

(1) artistic **renaissance**, (2) industrial **renaissance**Folk music is now experiencing a **renaissance**.

underpin

- v. to support or strengthen the foundations of something synonym: support, foundation, base
- (1) **underpin** a structure, (2) **underpin** democratization The research findings **underpin** the theory that human activities cause global warming.
- a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym: smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) blur image, (2) motion blur

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

indistinct

adj. not clear or easily seen, heard, or understoodsynonym: faint, blurred, hazy

(1) **indistinct** memory, (2) **indistinct** pronunciation
The **indistinct** shape in the fog made it difficult to determine what it was.

innovate

- v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products synonym: bring in, introduce, found
- (1) **innovate** a new method, (2) **innovate** the quality of his life

blur

Companies developing self-driving cars consistently **innovate** the emerging technologies.

redefine

v. 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.

hurdle

- n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcomesynonym: obstacle, barrier, challenge
- (1) overcome **hurdles**, (2) **hurdle** race

The company faced several **hurdles** in the development of its new product.

disarm

v. to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary

synonym: demilitarize, neutralize

(1) **disarm** opponents, (2) **disarm** a bomb

The police were able to **disarm** the suspect without any violence.

fling

v. to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry

synonym: throw, dump, hurl

(1) **fling** a stream of abuse, (2) **fling** a door open forcefully He was provoked to **fling** the draft on the floor.

annihilate

v. to destroy completely; to cause something to cease to exist

synonym: destroy, obliterate, eradicate

(1) **annihilate** the enemy, (2) **annihilate** all doubts

The virus had the potential to **annihilate** entire populations if

left unchecked.

sanction

n. official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement

synonym: approve, authorize, endorse

(1) Imperial **sanction**, (2) popular **sanction**The government imposed economic **sanctions** on the country.

stranglehold

n. a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control

synonym: grip, tight control, hold

- (1) escape their **stranglehold**, (2) information **stranglehold** The monopoly has a **stranglehold** on the market, making it difficult for new businesses to compete.
- v. to walk or move heavily and slowly; to work or progress at a slow and steady pace, often in a way that is seen as tedious or uncreative

synonym: trudge, slog, tramp

(1) **plod** along in mediocrity, (2) **plod** through mud Despite the heavy snowfall, the hiker continued to **plod** along the trail.

plod

Session 2: Spelling

mo____ze infrastructure

2. mo____ze agriculture

3. Imperial sa____on

4. fall victim to an as in

5. cyb____are defense

6. as mbattle

- v. to bring up to date or make contemporary in style or function; to bring modern methods or resources into an existing organization or system
- v. to bring up to date or make contemporary in style or function; to bring modern methods or resources into an existing organization or system
- n. official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement
- a person who murders a prominent or well-known person for political reasons or in exchange for money
- n. the use of digital technologies, such as hacking, viruses, and other malicious tactics, to disrupt, damage, or destroy computer systems, networks, and electronic devices, to cause harm to individuals, governments, or organizations
- n. something that is not as good or true as
 it seems to be and is intended to
 deceive people; a person who pretends
 to be something they are not

ANSWERS: 1. modernize, 2. modernize, 3. sanction, 4. assassin, 5. cyberwarfare, 6. sham

7.	der decision	<i>v</i> .	to delay or hold back something until a later time; to refer to another source of authority
8.	indct memory	adj.	not clear or easily seen, heard, or understood
9.	unin a structure	<i>v</i> .	to support or strengthen the foundations of something
10.	grab ahd of the rope	adv.	to take hold of something, to grasp firmly
11.	information strold	n.	a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control
12.	motion br	n.	a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
13.	extsh the street lamp	<i>v</i> .	to cause a fire to stop burning or light to stop shining
14.	inte a new method	<i>v</i> .	to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
15.	take ahd of the situation	adv.	to take hold of something, to grasp firmly
16.	political arl	n.	a collection of weapons or military equipment stored in preparation for war or conflict; a collection of resources or tools available for use in a particular field or endeavor
17.	asut in training	n.	a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere
18.	enh public services	<i>v</i> .	to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

ANSWERS: 7. defer, 8. indistinct, 9. underpin, 10. ahold, 11. stranglehold, 12. blur, 13. extinguish, 14. innovate, 15. ahold, 16. arsenal, 17. astronaut, 18. enrich

- electronic devices, to cause harm to individuals, governments, or organizations
- a unit of energy equivalent to one n. million tons of TNT

ANSWERS: 19. Renaissance, 20. warhead, 21. audacious, 22. fallout, 23. airspace, 24. extinguish, 25. cyberwarfare, 26. megaton

26. me___n weapon

to walk or move heavily and slowly; to 27. p d along in mediocrity ν. work or progress at a slow and steady pace, often in a way that is seen as tedious or uncreative something that is not as good or true as 28. turn out to be all s m n. it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not to make better or improve in quality by 29. en___h a gas with a balloon adding something else a person who murders a prominent or 30. would-be as____in n. well-known person for political reasons or in exchange for money a small bus designed to carry a limited 31. mi s taxi n. number of passengers, usually between 8 and 15, often used for public transportation, shuttle services, or private hire a faint or indistinct image or sound; 32. b rimage n. something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision 33. un in democratization to support or strengthen the foundations of something 34. re___ne customer experience to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way 35. me___n explosion a unit of energy equivalent to one n. million tons of TNT

ANSWERS: 27. plod, 28. sham, 29. enrich, 30. assassin, 31. minibus, 32. blur, 33. underpin, 34. redefine, 35. megaton

36.	rene our role	ν.	to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
37.	And tablet	n.	a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system
38.	lazy b_m	n.	a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive
39.	nuclear wad	n.	the explosive or destructive part of a missile, rocket, or other weapons that are designed to explode on impact or detonation
40.	flg a door open forcefully	v.	to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
41.	super leader	n.	a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
42.	cannot log in to the a_p	n.	(abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
43.	annte all doubts	v.	to destroy completely; to cause something to cease to exist
AN	SWERS: 36, redefine, 37, android, 38, l	hum	39 warhead 40 fling 41

ANSWERS: 36. redefine, 37. android, 38. bum, 39. warhead, 40. fling, 41. superpower, 42. app, 43. annihilate

44.	rete in a like fashion	<i>v</i> .	to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person
45.	escape their strold	n.	a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control
46.	overcome hues	n.	a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
47.	hue race	n.	a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
48.	popular saon	n.	official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement
49.	artistic rence	n.	a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music
50.	inte the quality of his life	<i>v</i> .	to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
51.	rete for the blow	<i>v</i> .	to respond to an action or attack with a similar action, especially one that is intended to harm or punish the other person
52.	arI of knowledge	n.	a collection of weapons or military equipment stored in preparation for war or conflict; a collection of resources or tools available for use in a particular field or endeavor

ANSWERS: 44. retaliate, 45. stranglehold, 46. hurdle, 47. hurdle, 48. sanction, 49. Renaissance, 50. innovate, 51. retaliate, 52. arsenal

53.	flg a stream of abuse	ν.	to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
54.	aice restrictions	n.	the designated area above the surface of the earth where aircraft are allowed to fly, regulated by government authorities; the portion of the atmosphere above a particular location that is controlled by a specific country or organization
55.	grald-grandparent relationship	n.	a child of someone's son or daughter
56.	der payment	<i>v</i> .	to delay or hold back something until a later time; to refer to another source of authority
57.	dim a bomb	ν.	to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary
58.	dim opponents	v.	to remove weapons or the means of attack from a person, group, or situation; to win over or reduce suspicion or hostility from an opponent or adversary
59.	dete a missile	<i>v</i> .	to explode or cause to explode; to set off a sudden or dramatic series of events
60.	super country	n.	a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

or

ANSWERS: 53. fling, 54. airspace, 55. grandchild, 56. defer, 57. disarm, 58. disarm, 59. detonate, 60. superpower

61.	unible conditions	adj.	not suitable or safe for people to live in; lacking the necessary conditions for human habitation
62.	graId development	n.	a child of someone's son or daughter
63.	annte the enemy	ν.	to destroy completely; to cause something to cease to exist
64.	pd through mud	v.	to walk or move heavily and slowly; to work or progress at a slow and steady pace, often in a way that is seen as tedious or uncreative
65.	crowded mis	n.	a small bus designed to carry a limited number of passengers, usually between 8 and 15, often used for public transportation, shuttle services, or private hire
66.	household and	n.	a robot with a human appearance; (operating system) Google's mobile operating system
67.	indct pronunciation	adj.	not clear or easily seen, heard, or understood
68.	the fat from the incident	n.	the radioactive dust in the air that settle to the ground after a nuclear explosion
69.	unible apartment	adj.	not suitable or safe for people to live in; lacking the necessary conditions for human habitation
70.	homeless b_m	n.	a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive

ANSWERS: 61. uninhabitable, 62. grandchild, 63. annihilate, 64. plod, 65. minibus, 66. android, 67. indistinct, 68. fallout, 69. uninhabitable, 70. bum

- 71. killer a_p
- 72. as____ut mission
- 73. au____us stunt
- 74. de____te a plan

- n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
- n. a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere
- adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
- v. to explode or cause to explode; to set off a sudden or dramatic series of events

ANSWERS: 71. app, 72. astronaut, 73. audacious, 74. detonate

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1.	He was provoked to the draft on the floor.						
v.	to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry						
2.	He used to be a successful businessman, but now he's a washed-up with nothing to show.						
n.	a person who is homeless or lives in poverty; a lazy, shiftless, or worthless person; a beggar; a person who spends time doing nothing productive						
3.	The grandparents take care of their while the parents are at work.						
n.	a child of someone's son or daughter						
4.	The camera's focus was off, and the image was a of colors and shapes.						
n.	a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb to become unclear; to lose clear vision						
5.	they had no protection from the radioactive						
n.	the radioactive dust in the air that settle to the ground after a nuclear explosion						
6.	The monopoly has a on the market, making it difficult for new businesses to compete.						
n.	a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control						
7.	The research findings the theory that human activities cause global warming.						
<i>v</i> .	to support or strengthen the foundations of something						
	ANSWERS: 1. fling, 2. bum, 3. grandchild, 4. blur, 5. fallout, 6. stranglehold, 7. underpin						

Vocab-Builder Ref from "Erika Gregory: The world doesn't need more nuclear weapons | TED Talk" (37 words)

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ANSWERS:						