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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Rachel Botsman: We've stopped trusting institutions and started trusting strangers | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/rachel_botsman_we_ve_st opped_trusting_institutions_and_started_trusting_strangers



Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

Bitcoin

n. a digital or virtual currency that uses cryptography for secure financial transactions, control of additional unit creation, and verification of asset transfers, which operates independently of centralized banking systems and is based on a decentralized ledger technology called blockchain

synonym: cryptocurrency, digital currency

Bitcoin wallet, (2) Bitcoin transaction
 Many businesses now accept Bitcoin as a form of payment.

institutionalize

 to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym: formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

smoker

- a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking
- (1) **smoker** behavior, (2) an inveterate **smoker**Many **smokers** are aware of the health risks associated with

smoking but find it difficult to quit.

chitchat

- n. casual, informal conversation; small talk or gossipsynonym: chatting, small talk, gossip
- (1) chitchat session, (2) idle chitchat

I enjoy a little **chitchat** with co-workers during lunch breaks.

visualize

v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

synonym: imagine, picture, envision

(1) **visualize** data, (2) **visualize** flying through space She tried to **visualize** the layout of the new house in her mind.

elusive

- *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember *synonym*: mysterious, ambiguous, inapproachable
- (1) an **elusive** criminal, (2) track down an **elusive** fact The physicist who found the **elusive** particle won the Nobel Prize.

empower

- v. to give someone the power or authority to do something synonym: authorize, endow, entitle
- (1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

creditor

- n. a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
- (1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor** I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

distinctly

 adv. in a way that is clearly or noticeably different or separates from something else; in a way that is unmistakably or unequivocally defined or identifiable
 synonym: clearly, obviously, unmistakably (1) **distinctly** remember, (2) **distinctly** different The **distinctly** floral scent of the perfume lingered in the air long after the wearer had left the room.

secondhand

adj. having been previously owned or used by someone else *synonym*: used, pre-owned, recycled

(1) **secondhand** car, (2) **secondhand** information He was excited to find a vintage suit at the **secondhand** shop for a fraction of the price of a new one.

doe

 a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym: rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

ride-sharing

 an arrangement in which a passenger travels in a private car driven by its owner for free or for a fee, especially as arranged by using a website or app

synonym: carpooling

(1) **ride-sharing** app, (2) **ride-sharing** parking lot The court ruled that the **ride-sharing** company should consider the drivers as employees.

trustworthy

adj. reliable and dependablesynonym: reliable, dependable, honest

(1) trustworthy ally, (2) trustworthy source

People tend to believe trustworthy friends with their secrets.

intrigue

v. to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone

synonym: attract, captivate, charm

(1) **intrigue** him, (2) **intrigue** against his rival The artist's innovative style of work **intrigues** me.

disrupt

stun

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.
- to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly

synonym: shock, amaze, astound

(1) **stun** fish, (2) **stun** an audience This sprinter **stunned** the world with his speed.

Catholic

- adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
- (1) catholic in his tastes, (2) the Catholic Church Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.
- a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor n. rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym: revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- rev engine, (2) rev up the crowd He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud rev.

boldness or daring, especially when it is foolhardy or reckless

synonym: boldness, daring, temerity

(1) audacity of hope, (2) act of audacity

His audacity in stealing the painting matched his foolishness in getting caught.

rev

dishonest

adj. capable of being corrupted, not honest synonym: fraudulent, deceitful, untrustworthy

(1) **dishonest** politicians, (2) promote **dishonest** behavior Often in drama, **dishonest** personalities gain popularity.

rampant

 adj. (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled

synonym: prevalent, dense, uncontrolled

(1) **rampant** growth of weeds, (2) **rampant** corruption In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules tend to be **rampant**.

frightening

adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming synonym: scary, terrifying, alarming

(1) cast **frightening** eyes, (2) **frightening** experience The news of the pandemic was a **frightening** reminder of the fragility of human health.

rethink

to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change
 it

synonym: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

perplexity

- n. confusion, doubt; state of being puzzledsynonym: confusion, bewilderment, uncertainty
- a perplexity issue, (2) resolve perplexity
 The perplexity of the situation left everyone at a loss for words.

confession

 a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal

synonym: admission, avowal, acknowledgment

(1) a **confession** of guilt, (2) a **confession** of faith The prisoner made a full **confession** and admitted to his crime.

transact

- v. to carry out or conduct a business or other transaction;to complete or fulfill an agreement, deal, or contractsynonym: conduct, carry out, perform
- (1) **transact** internationally, (2) **transact** in cash I need to **transact** some business at the bank before it closes.

invert

- v. to turn something upside down, inside out; to reverse the position, order, or relationship of somethingsynonym: turn upside down, reverse, flip
- (1) **invert** a glass, (2) **invert** position

 He decided to **invert** his investment portfolio, shifting from stocks to bonds.

opaque

- adj. not transparent; not allowing light to pass through; not permitting a clear view
- synonym: impenetrable, obscure, cloudy
- (1) **opaque** material, (2) **opaque** color

 The curtains were made of **opaque** fabric that blocked out all light.

blockchain

- a system in which a growing list of payment records, called blocks, made in cryptocurrency is maintained across several computers that are securely linked
- (1) **blockchain** platform, (2) the scalability of **blockchain** Cryptocurrencies are only one form of implementation of **blockchain** technology.

ledger

 a book or computer program used to keep track of financial transactions; a collection of records or accounts kept in such a book or program

synonym: book, register, account

(1) financial **ledger**, (2) personal **ledger**The auditor checked every entry in the **ledger** for accuracy.

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.

cryptography

- n. the study of the techniques and methods used for secure communication and information processing, particularly using codes and ciphers
- synonym: coding, steganography, encryption
- (1) asymmetric **cryptography**, (2) digital **cryptography** The software engineers developed a new **cryptography** algorithm to protect users' data.

eloquent

- adj. able to speak or write clearly and impressively synonym: persuasive, fluent, well-spoken
- an eloquent speaker, (2) eloquent writing
 she gave an eloquent speech at the graduation ceremony.

timestamp

- a record in printed or digital form that shows when a specific event happened, usually giving the date and time of day
- (1) the **timestamp** on a file, (2) a UNIX **timestamp**The engineer checked the log records' **timestamps** to investigate the system's bug.

intermediary

 a person or organization that acts as a go-between or mediator in negotiations or transactions between two or more parties; a middleman, a broker, or an agent who facilitates communication, trade, or dealings

synonym: middleman, mediator, agent

(1) financial intermediary, (2) intermediary roleThe intermediary between the buyer and the seller helped

them agree.

revolutionize

v. to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas

synonym: transform, innovate, modernize

(1) **revolutionize** the industry, (2) **revolutionize** the technology

The invention of the smartphone **revolutionized** the way we communicate with each other.

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.

overused

adj. used too often or too much, to the point of becoming cliched; lacking originality

synonym: overworked, overutilized, exhausted

(1) overused common, (2) overused cliché

The concept of time travel has become **overused** in science fiction and fantasy, with many movies and books exploring the idea.

tweet

 a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

synonym: peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)

(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets** We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.

matte

adj. having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy synonym: dull, flat, lusterless

(1) **matte** coating, (2) photo with a **matte** finish.

The body of his car has a **matte** finish.

app

 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.

swipe

v. to strike, hit, or slap with a sweeping motion; to pass a magnetic stripe or barcode through a scanner to read data; to steal or take something quickly and with little effort

synonym: flick, brush, pinch

(1) **swipe** a card, (2) **swipe** left on a dating app He tried to **swipe** the phone from my hand, but I held on tight.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

Session 2: Spelling

- 1. op___e color
- 2. sec____nd car
- 3. tru____hy ally
- 4. el___nt writing
- 5. fri____ng experience
- 6. the ti____mp on a file
- 7. resolve per____ty
- 8. digital cry____phy
- 9. an op____ne remark
- 10. vi ze data
- 11. low-r_v engine

- adj. not transparent; not allowing light to pass through; not permitting a clear view
- adj. having been previously owned or used by someone else
- adj. reliable and dependable
- adj. able to speak or write clearly and impressively
- adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
- a record in printed or digital form that shows when a specific event happened, usually giving the date and time of day
- n. confusion, doubt; state of being puzzled
- n. the study of the techniques and methods used for secure communication and information processing, particularly using codes and ciphers
- adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
- to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
- n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 1. opaque, 2. secondhand, 3. trustworthy, 4. eloquent, 5. frightening, 6. timestamp, 7. perplexity, 8. cryptography, 9. opportune, 10. visualize, 11. rev

ANSWERS: 12. confession, 13. rev, 14. overused, 15. tweet, 16. creditor, 17. audacity, 18. rampant, 19. overused, 20. empower, 21. underpin, 22. underpin

ANSWERS: 23. doe, 24. invert, 25. visualize, 26. intrigue, 27. elusive, 28. frightening, 29. smoker, 30. perplexity, 31. doe, 32. confession, 33. creditor, 34. intermediary

ANSWERS: 35. blockchain, 36. tweet, 37. disrupt, 38. transact, 39. chitchat, 40. rethink, 41. app, 42. swipe, 43. revolutionize

44. int a glass	<i>v</i> .	to turn something upside down, inside out; to reverse the position, order, or relationship of something			
45. intary role	n.	a person or organization that acts as a go-between or mediator in negotiations or transactions between two or more parties; a middleman, a broker, or an agent who facilitates communication, trade, or dealings			
46. trct in cash	<i>v</i> .	to carry out or conduct a business or other transaction; to complete or fulfill an agreement, deal, or contract			
47. financial ler	n.	a book or computer program used to keep track of financial transactions; a collection of records or accounts kept in such a book or program			
48. insize a system	v.	to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)			
49. personal ler	n.	a book or computer program used to keep track of financial transactions; a collection of records or accounts kept in such a book or program			
50. riding parking lot	n.	an arrangement in which a passenger travels in a private car driven by its owner for free or for a fee, especially as arranged by using a website or app			
51. insize customary laws	v.	to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)			
ANSWERS: 44. invert, 45. intermediary, 46. transact, 47. ledger, 48. institutionalize,					
49. ledger, 50. ride-sharing, 51. institutionalize					

ANSWERS: 52. rethink, 53. stun, 54. blockchain, 55. trustworthy, 56. empower, 57. smoker, 58. secondhand, 59. matte, 60. app, 61. opportune, 62. distinctly

ANSWERS: 63. contentious, 64. contentious, 65. cryptography, 66. Catholic, 67. dishonest, 68. revolutionize, 69. eloquent, 70. Catholic, 71. elusive, 72. ride-sharing

creation, and verification of asset transfers, which operates independently of centralized banking systems and is based on a decentralized ledger technology called blockchain 75. dis____ly remember adv. in a way that is clearly or noticeably

different or separates from something else; in a way that is unmistakably or unequivocally defined or identifiable

cryptography for secure financial

transactions, control of additional unit

a record in printed or digital form that n. shows when a specific event happened, usually giving the date and time of day

to strike, hit, or slap with a sweeping motion; to pass a magnetic stripe or barcode through a scanner to read data; to steal or take something quickly and with little effort

boldness or daring, especially when it is n. foolhardy or reckless

76. a UNIX ti mp

77. sw__e a card

78. act of au___ty

ANSWERS: 73. Bitcoin, 74. Bitcoin, 75. distinctly, 76. timestamp, 77. swipe, 78. audacity

79. rat growth of weeds	adj.	(especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
80. promote dist behavior	adj.	capable of being corrupted, not honest
81. idle chat	n.	casual, informal conversation; small talk or gossip
82. dit a well-ordered condition	ν.	to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
83. photo with a mae finish	adj.	having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
84. ope material	adj.	not transparent; not allowing light to pass through; not permitting a clear view
85. sn fish	v.	to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly
86. inue against his rival	ν.	to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone

ANSWERS: 79. rampant, 80. dishonest, 81. chitchat, 82. disrupt, 83. matte, 84. opaque, 85. stun, 86. intrigue

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1.	The between the buyer and the seller helped them agree.
n.	a person or organization that acts as a go-between or mediator in negotiations or transactions between two or more parties; a middleman, a broker, or an agent who facilitates communication, trade, or dealings
2.	The body of his car has a finish.
adj	having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
3.	Sociologists are now interested in world peace.
adj	universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
4.	The company employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
<i>v</i> .	to give someone the power or authority to do something
5.	There are many issues in claiming a patent.
adj	i. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
6.	Hunters use a whistle that makes the sound to lure stags.
n.	a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
7.	The invention of the smartphone the way we communicate with each other.
v.	to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas
	SWERS: 1. intermediary, 2. matte, 3. catholic, 4. empowered, 5. contentious, 6. e, 7. revolutionized

40. We have to our company's product lineup for further growth. ν. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it	
41. The new policy aims to the use of renewable energy sources.	
v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)	
42. She gave an speech at the graduation ceremony.	
adj. able to speak or write clearly and impressively	
43. The auditor checked every entry in the for accuracy.	
 a book or computer program used to keep track of financial transactions; a collection of records or accounts kept in such a book or program 	
ANSWERS: 40. rethink, 41. institutionalize, 42. eloquent, 43. ledger	