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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Jocelyne Bloch: The brain may be able to repair itself -- with help | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/jocelyne\\_bloch\\_the\\_brain\\_may\\_be\\_able\\_to\\_repair\\_itself\\_with\\_help](https://www.ted.com/talks/jocelyne_bloch_the_brain_may_be_able_to_repair_itself_with_help)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### neurosurgeon

*n.* a medical doctor who specializes in the surgical treatment of conditions affecting the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves

*synonym:* brain surgeon, neurologist, surgical specialist

(1) skilled **neurosurgeon**, (2) leading **neurosurgeon**

The hospital recruited experienced **neurosurgeons** worldwide to treat complex neurological disorders comprehensively.

### 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.

### modulate

*v.* to change the key, style, loudness, etc., of something in music to create a particular effect; to fix or adjust the time, amount, degree, or rate of something

*synonym:* regulate, inflect, adjust

(1) **modulate** the function, (2) **modulate** from one key to another

These chemicals **modulate** the effect of metabolism.

## neuron

*n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

*synonym* : nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

## improvisation

*n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

*synonym* : spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

## tremor

*n.* a small earthquake or shaking or vibrating

*synonym* : shaking, quivering, trembling

(1) a **tremor** of delight, (2) **tremor** frequency

The bad **tremor** caused several buildings to collapse.

## neurology

*n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system

*synonym* : brain science, nervous system, neuropathology

(1) cognitive **neurology**, (2) **neurology** department

She is studying clinical **neurology** to become a brain surgeon.

## swelling

*n.* an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury

*synonym* : bulge, bump, inflammation

(1) **swelling** of the ankle, (2) hard **swelling** on the body

After intensive icing by the trainer, the **swelling** went down.

## cranium

*n.* the skull of a human or animal, which encloses and protects the brain

*synonym* : skull, head, braincase

(1) human **cranium**, (2) fractured **cranium**

The scientist studied the dinosaur's **cranium** to learn more about its brain.

## swell

*v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important

*synonym*: expand, increase, inflate

(1) **swell** at room temperature, (2) **swell** a population

His arm was **swelling** from the insect bite.

## superficial

*adj.* existing or occurring only at or on the surface; appearing to be true or real only until examined more closely

*synonym*: shallow, facile, cursory

(1) **superficial** wound, (2) **superficial** knowledge

The journalist's **superficial** reporting should have captured the full scope of the issue.

## immortal

*adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance

*synonym*: eternal, everlasting, undying

(1) **immortal** soul, (2) **immortal** love

Legends often describe mythical creatures as **immortal** beings.

## cortical

*adj.* relating to or located in the outer layer of an organ or body structure, particularly the cortex of the brain

(1) **cortical** neurons, (2) **cortical** activity

The MRI showed activity in the **cortical** region of the patient's brain.

## fetus

*n.* an unborn or unhatched animal in the later stages of development showing the main recognizable features of the mature animal

(1) development of the **fetus**, (2) an aborted **fetus**

The female vagina is elastic enough to allow the passage of a

**fetus.**

**lesion**

*n.* a damaged or abnormal area of tissue in the body, usually caused by injury or disease

*synonym*: injury, wound, damage

(1) muscle **lesion**, (2) brain **lesion**

The doctor examined the **lesion** on the patient's skin to determine if it was cancerous.

**biopsy**

*n.* the process of removing and examining tissue from the body of the sick person to determine the existence or cause of a disease

*synonym*: examination, autopsy

(1) **biopsy** of bone marrow, (2) liquid **biopsy**

The doctor performed an excisional breast **biopsy**.

**eloquent**

*adj.* able to speak or write clearly and impressively

*synonym*: persuasive, fluent, well-spoken

(1) an **eloquent** speaker, (2) **eloquent** writing

She gave an **eloquent** speech at the graduation ceremony.

**autologous**

*adj.* derived or obtained from the same individual's body, typically referring to a medical procedure in which tissues, cells, or organs are transplanted or transferred back to the same person they originated from

*synonym*: self-donor, autogenous, self-derived

(1) **autologous** transplantation, (2) **autologous** stem cells

The patient underwent an **autologous** bone marrow transplant.

**graft**

*n.* a transplanted portion of tissue or skin, often taken from one part of the body and used to repair or replace damaged or missing tissue in another part; a corrupt or illegal means of acquiring wealth or power through illicit or unethical methods

*synonym*: transplant, implantation, bribery

(1) **graft** surgery, (2) anti- **graft** law

The patient's skin **graft** procedure was successful, and he was released from the hospital.

## vitro

*n.* (used as "in vitro") a scientific experiment or procedure that takes place outside of a living organism, usually in a test tube or petri dish

*synonym*: glass, container, vessel

(1) in **vitro** fermentation, (2) in **vitro** diagnostics

The lab technician used in **vitro** fertilization to help the couple conceive.

## dexterity

*n.* skill and speed in performing physical tasks, especially with the hands; mental skill or adroitness in dealing with situations or problems

*synonym*: skillfulness, agility, expertise

(1) **dexterity** with the pen, (2) manual **dexterity**

The surgeon's **dexterity** was impressive during the delicate surgery.

## pellet

*n.* a small, round piece of compressed material, such as wood or plastic

*synonym*: bead, ball, bullet

(1) the form of a small **pellet**, (2) **pellet** stove

The **pellet** gun was used to shoot small metal balls.

## plateau

*n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress

*synonym*: mesa, tableland, plain

(1) **plateau** region, (2) **plateau** in performance

The hikers finally reached the **plateau** after a long climb up the mountain.

## paraplegia

*n.* a form of paralysis that affects all or part of the lower body, typically caused by injury to the spinal cord or nervous system

*synonym* : spinal cord injury, paralysis

(1) **paraplegia** treatment, (2) traumatic **paraplegia**

After his accident, he was left with **paraplegia** and had to use a wheelchair.

## 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.

## cryopreservation

*n.* the process of preserving biological material at very low temperatures, often below  $-150^{\circ}\text{C}$ , to maintain its viability and function

*synonym* : freezing, preservation, cold storage

(1) **cryopreservation** techniques, (2) sperm **cryopreservation**

The **cryopreservation** process typically involves special freezing agents and controlled cooling rates to minimize cell damage.

## pathological

*adj.* relating to or caused by a physical or mental disease or disorder; extreme or abnormal in a way that is harmful or unhealthy

*synonym* : aberrant, diseased, abnormal

(1) **pathological** liar, (2) **pathological** condition

The doctor was concerned that the patient's **pathological** fear of germs impacted their daily life.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. in vi\_\_o fermentation  
*n.* (used as "in vitro") a scientific experiment or procedure that takes place outside of a living organism, usually in a test tube or petri dish
2. cognitive ne\_\_\_\_\_gy  
*n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system
3. ne\_\_\_\_\_gy department  
*n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system
4. ne\_\_\_n cell body  
*n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
5. aut\_\_\_\_\_us stem cells  
*adj.* derived or obtained from the same individual's body, typically referring to a medical procedure in which tissues, cells, or organs are transplanted or transferred back to the same person they originated from
6. an el\_\_\_\_\_nt speaker  
*adj.* able to speak or write clearly and impressively
7. co\_\_\_\_\_al activity  
*adj.* relating to or located in the outer layer of an organ or body structure, particularly the cortex of the brain
8. an aborted fe\_\_s  
*n.* an unborn or unhatched animal in the later stages of development showing the main recognizable features of the mature animal

ANSWERS: 1. vitro, 2. neurology, 3. neurology, 4. neuron, 5. autologous, 6. eloquent, 7. cortical, 8. fetus

9. el\_\_\_\_\_nt writing *adj.* able to speak or write clearly and impressively
10. im\_\_\_\_\_al soul *adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance
11. aut\_\_\_\_\_us transplantation *adj.* derived or obtained from the same individual's body, typically referring to a medical procedure in which tissues, cells, or organs are transplanted or transferred back to the same person they originated from
12. in vi\_\_o diagnostics *n.* (used as "in vitro") a scientific experiment or procedure that takes place outside of a living organism, usually in a test tube or petri dish
13. recover spo\_\_\_\_\_sly after five days *adv.* in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden
14. par\_\_\_\_\_ia treatment *n.* a form of paralysis that affects all or part of the lower body, typically caused by injury to the spinal cord or nervous system
15. sperm cry\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the process of preserving biological material at very low temperatures, often below -150°C, to maintain its viability and function
16. de\_\_\_\_\_ty with the pen *n.* skill and speed in performing physical tasks, especially with the hands; mental skill or adroitness in dealing with situations or problems

ANSWERS: 9. eloquent, 10. immortal, 11. autologous, 12. vitro, 13. spontaneously, 14. paraplegia, 15. cryopreservation, 16. dexterity





25. bi\_\_\_y of bone marrow *n.* the process of removing and examining tissue from the body of the sick person to determine the existence or cause of a disease
26. this shift occurs spo\_\_\_\_\_sly *adv.* in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden
27. sw\_\_l a population *v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important
28. im\_\_\_\_\_al love *adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance
29. fractured cr\_\_\_\_\_m *n.* the skull of a human or animal, which encloses and protects the brain
30. traumatic par\_\_\_\_\_ia *n.* a form of paralysis that affects all or part of the lower body, typically caused by injury to the spinal cord or nervous system
31. a tr\_\_\_r of delight *n.* a small earthquake or shaking or vibrating
32. gr\_\_t surgery *n.* a transplanted portion of tissue or skin, often taken from one part of the body and used to repair or replace damaged or missing tissue in another part; a corrupt or illegal means of acquiring wealth or power through illicit or unethical methods
33. pat\_\_\_\_\_cal liar *adj.* relating to or caused by a physical or mental disease or disorder; extreme or abnormal in a way that is harmful or unhealthy

ANSWERS: 25. biopsy, 26. spontaneously, 27. swell, 28. immortal, 29. cranium, 30. paraplegia, 31. tremor, 32. graft, 33. pathological

34. pl\_\_\_\_\_u in performance *n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress
35. the form of a small pe\_\_\_\_t *n.* a small, round piece of compressed material, such as wood or plastic
36. development of the fe\_\_s *n.* an unborn or unhatched animal in the later stages of development showing the main recognizable features of the mature animal
37. imp\_\_\_\_\_ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
38. jazz imp\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
39. sw\_\_\_\_\_ng of the ankle *n.* an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury
40. pe\_\_\_\_t stove *n.* a small, round piece of compressed material, such as wood or plastic
41. hard sw\_\_\_\_\_ng on the body *n.* an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury
42. sup\_\_\_\_\_al wound *adj.* existing or occurring only at or on the surface; appearing to be true or real only until examined more closely
43. fever with neu\_\_\_\_\_cal signs *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

ANSWERS: 34. plateau, 35. pellet, 36. fetus, 37. improvisation, 38. improvisation, 39. swelling, 40. pellet, 41. swelling, 42. superficial, 43. neurological

44. brain le\_\_\_n *n.* a damaged or abnormal area of tissue in the body, usually caused by injury or disease
45. co\_\_\_\_al neurons *adj.* relating to or located in the outer layer of an organ or body structure, particularly the cortex of the brain
46. skilled neu\_\_\_\_eon *n.* a medical doctor who specializes in the surgical treatment of conditions affecting the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves
47. mo\_\_\_\_te from one key to another *v.* to change the key, style, loudness, etc., of something in music to create a particular effect; to fix or adjust the time, amount, degree, or rate of something
48. tr\_\_\_r frequency *n.* a small earthquake or shaking or vibrating
49. sw\_\_l at room temperature *v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important
50. sup\_\_\_\_al knowledge *adj.* existing or occurring only at or on the surface; appearing to be true or real only until examined more closely
51. cry\_\_\_\_ion techniques *n.* the process of preserving biological material at very low temperatures, often below -150°C, to maintain its viability and function
52. pl\_\_\_\_u region *n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress

ANSWERS: 44. lesion, 45. cortical, 46. neurosurgeon, 47. modulate, 48. tremor, 49. swell, 50. superficial, 51. cryopreservation, 52. plateau

53. muscle le\_\_\_n

*n.* a damaged or abnormal area of tissue in the body, usually caused by injury or disease

54. pat\_\_\_\_\_cal condition

*adj.* relating to or caused by a physical or mental disease or disorder; extreme or abnormal in a way that is harmful or unhealthy

ANSWERS: 53. lesion, 54. pathological

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Legends often describe mythical creatures as \_\_\_\_\_ beings.  
*adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance
2. The female vagina is elastic enough to allow the passage of a \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* an unborn or unhatched animal in the later stages of development showing the main recognizable features of the mature animal
3. The doctor examined the \_\_\_\_\_ on the patient's skin to determine if it was cancerous.  
*n.* a damaged or abnormal area of tissue in the body, usually caused by injury or disease
4. The patient was diagnosed with a \_\_\_\_\_ disorder affecting their motor skills.  
*adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
5. The surgeon's \_\_\_\_\_ was impressive during the delicate surgery.  
*n.* skill and speed in performing physical tasks, especially with the hands; mental skill or adroitness in dealing with situations or problems
6. The hikers finally reached the \_\_\_\_\_ after a long climb up the mountain.  
*n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ gun was used to shoot small metal balls.  
*n.* a small, round piece of compressed material, such as wood or plastic

ANSWERS: 1. immortal, 2. fetus, 3. lesion, 4. neurological, 5. dexterity, 6. plateau, 7. pellet

8. The electrical cord \_\_\_\_\_ combusted.

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

9. The patient's skin \_\_\_\_\_ procedure was successful, and he was released from the hospital.

*n.* a transplanted portion of tissue or skin, often taken from one part of the body and used to repair or replace damaged or missing tissue in another part; a corrupt or illegal means of acquiring wealth or power through illicit or unethical methods

10. The journalist's \_\_\_\_\_ reporting should have captured the full scope of the issue.

*adj.* existing or occurring only at or on the surface; appearing to be true or real only until examined more closely

11. These chemicals \_\_\_\_\_ the effect of metabolism.

*v.* to change the key, style, loudness, etc., of something in music to create a particular effect; to fix or adjust the time, amount, degree, or rate of something

12. After intensive icing by the trainer, the \_\_\_\_\_ went down.

*n.* an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury

13. She gave an \_\_\_\_\_ speech at the graduation ceremony.

*adj.* able to speak or write clearly and impressively

14. The bad \_\_\_\_\_ caused several buildings to collapse.

*n.* a small earthquake or shaking or vibrating

15. Our body transfers information along each \_\_\_\_\_ using an electrical impulse.

*n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

ANSWERS: 8. spontaneously, 9. graft, 10. superficial, 11. modulate, 12. swelling, 13. eloquent, 14. tremor, 15. neuron

16. The doctor performed an excisional breast \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* the process of removing and examining tissue from the body of the sick person to determine the existence or cause of a disease
17. The lab technician used in \_\_\_\_\_ fertilization to help the couple conceive.
- n.* (used as "in vitro") a scientific experiment or procedure that takes place outside of a living organism, usually in a test tube or petri dish
18. After his accident, he was left with \_\_\_\_\_ and had to use a wheelchair.
- n.* a form of paralysis that affects all or part of the lower body, typically caused by injury to the spinal cord or nervous system
19. The \_\_\_\_\_ process typically involves special freezing agents and controlled cooling rates to minimize cell damage.
- n.* the process of preserving biological material at very low temperatures, often below -150°C, to maintain its viability and function
20. She is studying clinical \_\_\_\_\_ to become a brain surgeon.
- n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the nervous system
21. The hospital recruited experienced \_\_\_\_\_ worldwide to treat complex neurological disorders comprehensively.
- n.* a medical doctor who specializes in the surgical treatment of conditions affecting the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves
22. The doctor was concerned that the patient's \_\_\_\_\_ fear of germs impacted their daily life.
- adj.* relating to or caused by a physical or mental disease or disorder; extreme or abnormal in a way that is harmful or unhealthy

ANSWERS: 16. biopsy, 17. vitro, 18. paraplegia, 19. cryopreservation, 20. neurology, 21. neurosurgeons, 22. pathological



23. The MRI showed activity in the \_\_\_\_\_ region of the patient's brain.

*adj.* relating to or located in the outer layer of an organ or body structure, particularly the cortex of the brain

24. The patient underwent an \_\_\_\_\_ bone marrow transplant.

*adj.* derived or obtained from the same individual's body, typically referring to a medical procedure in which tissues, cells, or organs are transplanted or transferred back to the same person they originated from

25. He created a beautiful piece of music using only \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

26. The scientist studied the dinosaur's \_\_\_\_\_ to learn more about its brain.

*n.* the skull of a human or animal, which encloses and protects the brain

27. His arm was \_\_\_\_\_ from the insect bite.

*v.* to become larger or more inflated; to become more intense or important

ANSWERS: 23. cortical, 24. autologous, 25. improvisation, 26. cranium, 27. swelling