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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ian Bremmer: How the US should use its superpower status | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

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.

institutionalize

v. 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.

spew

v. to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts

synonym: vomit, spout, discharge

(1) **spew** carbon dioxide, (2) **spew** insults

The volcano started to **spew** lava and ash, causing panic among residents.

expletive

n. a curse word or a swear word; a word or phrase used to convey strong emotions, such as anger or frustration

synonym : curse, swear word, profanity

(1) **expletive** language, (2) **expletive** pronoun

When she stubbed her toe, she let out an **expletive** in pain.

tarmac

n. (also "blacktop") a hard surface made of asphalt, concrete, or other materials, typically used as a runway or surface for vehicles to move on, such as a road, parking lot, or airport runway; (verb) to surface or pave a road or runway with tarmac

synonym : runway, airstrip, path

(1) **tarmac** repair, (2) **tarmac** a driveway

The plane pulled onto the **tarmac** and stopped at the gate.

Norman

adj. relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

synonym : medieval, antique, archaic

(1) **norman** cathedral, (2) **norman** invasion

The **Norman** architecture in the old city was a sight to behold.

onstage

adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

(1) appeared **onstage**, (2) walk **onstage**

He performed his magic trick **onstage**, leaving the audience in awe.

transatlantic

adj. relating to or situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, especially about travel communication or cultural exchange between Europe and North America

synonym : intercontinental, across-the-pond

(1) **transatlantic** cable, (2) **transatlantic** partnership

Transatlantic cooperation is important for global security and stability.

Brexit

n. (short for "British exit") the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union (EU), which originates from a nationwide referendum held in the UK on June 23, 2016, in which 51.9% of voters chose to leave the EU

(1) **Brexit** referendum, (2) **Brexit** transition period

Many European citizens living in the UK are concerned about their rights post- **Brexit**.

germ

n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

quiescent

adj. being in a state of quietness, rest, or inactivity; dormant or temporarily inactive

synonym: dormant, inactive, dormant

(1) **quiescent** period, (2) **quiescent** state

After a long day of work, she found solace in the **quiescent** atmosphere of her home.

doe

n. 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.

antagonize

v. to cause someone to feel anger or hostility; to provoke or irritate

synonym: provoke, annoy, irritate

(1) **antagonize** an enemy, (2) **antagonize** a rival team

His constant nitpicking and criticism only served to **antagonize** his coworkers.

encroach

v. to advance beyond the usual or acceptable limit gradually and often without being noticed; to infringe upon someone's territory, rights, privacy, etc.

synonym : invade, impinge, infringe

(1) **encroach** on the realm, (2) **encroach** on the habitat of the animal

You have no right to **encroach** on my leisure time.

crumb

n. a small particle or fragment of food or other substance, often one that has broken off from a larger piece; a very small amount or portion of something

synonym : fragment, particle, bit

(1) **crumb** of information, (2) bread **crumb**

My dog found a **crumb** on the floor and quickly ate it.

spar

v. to engage in boxing or other combat sports with a partner for practice or training purposes; to practice fighting or defending oneself using light blows or drills

synonym : fight, wrestle

(1) **spar** with a partner, (2) **spar** over ideas

The kayakers had to **spar** with the strong winds and waves to reach the shore.

xenophobic

adj. showing strong dislike or fear of people from other countries or cultures; having a strong bias or prejudice against outsiders

synonym : prejudiced, racist, intolerant

(1) **xenophobic** attitude, (2) **xenophobic** statements

The **xenophobic** rhetoric of the politician only seeks to sow division and hatred among people.

escalate

v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious

synonym : increase, intensify, expand

(1) **escalate** into a major international incident, (2) to **escalate**

The situation quickly **escalated** and turned violent.

geopolitical

adj. of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area

(1) the **geopolitical** situations, (2) reduce **geopolitical** risk
The country holds dominant **geopolitical** power over its neighbors.

periphery

n. the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people

synonym: edge, border, margin

(1) around the **periphery**, (2) **periphery** countries
The factory was located on the city's **periphery**, away from residential areas.

impeach

v. to bring formal charges against a public official for misconduct in office

synonym: charge, accuse, claim

(1) **impeach** him with an error, (2) **impeach** official
The House of Representatives **impeached** the president for abuse of power.

unpopular

adj. not liked, supported, or approved by many people; having an unfavorable reputation

synonym: disliked, unloved, unsupported

(1) **unpopular** decision, (2) an **unpopular** opinion
The politician's stance on controversial issues made him an **unpopular** candidate for many voters.

urbanization

n. the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture

synonym: urban development, urban growth, urban expansion

(1) **urbanization** process, (2) non- **urbanization** area
Rapid **urbanization** has led to many environmental and social issues in cities.

entrepreneurship

n. the process or skill of starting and running a business, particularly a new and innovative one

synonym : self-employment, risk-taking

(1) **entrepreneurship** culture, (2) embody

entrepreneurship

The government is investing in programs to support **entrepreneurship** and small business development.

dicey

adj. risky, uncertain, or unpredictable; involving a potential for danger or uncertain outcomes

synonym : risky, precarious, uncertain

(1) **dicey** situation, (2) **dicey** gamble

The weather forecast warned of **dicey** conditions on the mountain pass.

segregation

n. the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation

synonym : isolation, separation, discrimination

(1) racial **segregation**, (2) **segregation** of power

Segregation based on race or ethnicity is illegal and unjust.

globalism

n. a political, economic, and social outlook that emphasizes the importance of global cooperation and interdependence, often associated with free trade, globalization of culture, and the spread of technology

synonym : internationalism, universality

(1) **globalism** movement, (2) anti- **globalism**

The rise of **globalism** has led to increased international trade and cultural exchange.

outrun

v. to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit

synonym : outpace, outrank, outdistance

(1) **outrun** competitors, (2) **outrun** the cops
I'll need to **outrun** the rainstorm to make it home without getting soaked.

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.

forbid

v. to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
synonym: prohibit, ban, outlaw

(1) **forbid** smoking in public areas, (2) **forbid** the use of chemical weapons

God **forbid** you should regret your marriage.

compel

v. to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

synonym: force, oblige, coerce

(1) **compel** a person to submission, (2) **compel** attention

The strict deadlines will **compel** the team to work efficiently.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|--|------|--|
| 1. im_____h him with an error | v. | to bring formal charges against a public official for misconduct in office |
| 2. es_____te into a major international incident | v. | to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious |
| 3. the geo_____cal situations | adj. | of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area |
| 4. xen_____ic attitude | adj. | showing strong dislike or fear of people from other countries or cultures; having a strong bias or prejudice against outsiders |
| 5. pe_____ry countries | n. | the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people |
| 6. en_____ch on the habitat of the animal | v. | to advance beyond the usual or acceptable limit gradually and often without being noticed; to infringe upon someone's territory, rights, privacy, etc. |
| 7. ins_____ize customary laws | v. | to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.) |
| 8. racial seg_____on | n. | the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation |

ANSWERS: 1. impeach, 2. escalate, 3. geopolitical, 4. xenophobic, 5. periphery, 6. encroach, 7. institutionalize, 8. segregation

9. im____h official *v.* to bring formal charges against a public official for misconduct in office
10. di__y situation *adj.* risky, uncertain, or unpredictable; involving a potential for danger or uncertain outcomes
11. walk on____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
12. anti-gl_____sm *n.* a political, economic, and social outlook that emphasizes the importance of global cooperation and interdependence, often associated with free trade, globalization of culture, and the spread of technology
13. tr__p card *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
14. ou____n the cops *v.* to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit
15. cr__b of information *n.* a small particle or fragment of food or other substance, often one that has broken off from a larger piece; a very small amount or portion of something
16. reduce geo_____cal risk *adj.* of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area
17. fo____d smoking in public areas *v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising

ANSWERS: 9. impeach, 10. dicey, 11. onstage, 12. globalism, 13. trump, 14. outrun, 15. crumb, 16. geopolitical, 17. forbid

18. antibiotic-resistant g__m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
19. tra_____tic cable *adj.* relating to or situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, especially about travel communication or cultural exchange between Europe and North America
20. ta___c a driveway *n.* (also "blacktop") a hard surface made of asphalt, concrete, or other materials, typically used as a runway or surface for vehicles to move on, such as a road, parking lot, or airport runway; (verb) to surface or pave a road or runway with tarmac
21. to es_____te *v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
22. ex_____ve language *n.* a curse word or a swear word; a word or phrase used to convey strong emotions, such as anger or frustration
23. fo___d the use of chemical weapons *v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
24. xen_____ic statements *adj.* showing strong dislike or fear of people from other countries or cultures; having a strong bias or prejudice against outsiders
25. ou___n competitors *v.* to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit

ANSWERS: 18. germ, 19. transatlantic, 20. tarmac, 21. escalate, 22. expletive, 23. forbid, 24. xenophobic, 25. outrun

26. around the pe_____ry *n.* the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people
27. di__y gamble *adj.* risky, uncertain, or unpredictable; involving a potential for danger or uncertain outcomes
28. ta___c repair *n.* (also "blacktop") a hard surface made of asphalt, concrete, or other materials, typically used as a runway or surface for vehicles to move on, such as a road, parking lot, or airport runway; (verb) to surface or pave a road or runway with tarmac
29. en_____ch on the realm *v.* to advance beyond the usual or acceptable limit gradually and often without being noticed; to infringe upon someone's territory, rights, privacy, etc.
30. un_____ar decision *adj.* not liked, supported, or approved by many people; having an unfavorable reputation
31. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
32. no___n cathedral *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

ANSWERS: 26. periphery, 27. dicey, 28. tarmac, 29. encroach, 30. unpopular, 31. institutionalize, 32. Norman

33. s__r over ideas *v.* to engage in boxing or other combat sports with a partner for practice or training purposes; to practice fighting or defending oneself using light blows or drills
34. ent_____hip culture *n.* the process or skill of starting and running a business, particularly a new and innovative one
35. 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
36. Br___t referendum *n.* (short for "British exit") the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union (EU), which originates from a nationwide referendum held in the UK on June 23, 2016, in which 51.9% of voters chose to leave the EU
37. seg_____on of power *n.* the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation
38. s__r with a partner *v.* to engage in boxing or other combat sports with a partner for practice or training purposes; to practice fighting or defending oneself using light blows or drills
39. qu_____nt state *adj.* being in a state of quietness, rest, or inactivity; dormant or temporarily inactive

ANSWERS: 33. spar, 34. entrepreneurship, 35. steer, 36. Brexit, 37. segregation, 38. spar, 39. quiescent

40. co___l a person to submission *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
41. d_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
42. urb_____ion process *n.* the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture
43. Br___t transition period *n.* (short for "British exit") the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union (EU), which originates from a nationwide referendum held in the UK on June 23, 2016, in which 51.9% of voters chose to leave the EU
44. non-urb_____ion area *n.* the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture
45. ex_____ve pronoun *n.* a curse word or a swear word; a word or phrase used to convey strong emotions, such as anger or frustration
46. appeared on_____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
47. 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

ANSWERS: 40. compel, 41. doe, 42. urbanization, 43. Brexit, 44. urbanization, 45. expletive, 46. onstage, 47. steer

48. qu_____nt period *adj.* being in a state of quietness, rest, or inactivity; dormant or temporarily inactive
49. co____l attention *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
50. choose tr__p *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
51. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
52. an un_____ar opinion *adj.* not liked, supported, or approved by many people; having an unfavorable reputation
53. no____n invasion *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period
54. tra_____tic partnership *adj.* relating to or situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, especially about travel communication or cultural exchange between Europe and North America
55. gl_____sm movement *n.* a political, economic, and social outlook that emphasizes the importance of global cooperation and interdependence, often associated with free trade, globalization of culture, and the spread of technology

ANSWERS: 48. quiescent, 49. compel, 50. trump, 51. doe, 52. unpopular, 53. Norman, 54. transatlantic, 55. globalism

56. embody ent_____hip *n.* the process or skill of starting and running a business, particularly a new and innovative one
57. ant_____ze an enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel anger or hostility; to provoke or irritate
58. a g__m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
59. bread cr__b *n.* a small particle or fragment of food or other substance, often one that has broken off from a larger piece; a very small amount or portion of something
60. s__w carbon dioxide *v.* to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
61. ant_____ze a rival team *v.* to cause someone to feel anger or hostility; to provoke or irritate
62. s__w insults *v.* to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts

ANSWERS: 56. entrepreneurship, 57. antagonize, 58. germ, 59. crumb, 60. spew, 61. antagonize, 62. spew

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The House of Representatives _____ the president for abuse of power.
v. to bring formal charges against a public official for misconduct in office
2. After a long day of work, she found solace in the _____ atmosphere of her home.
adj. being in a state of quietness, rest, or inactivity; dormant or temporarily inactive
3. 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
4. The kayakers had to ____ with the strong winds and waves to reach the shore.
v. to engage in boxing or other combat sports with a partner for practice or training purposes; to practice fighting or defending oneself using light blows or drills
5. The plane pulled onto the _____ and stopped at the gate.
n. (also "blacktop") a hard surface made of asphalt, concrete, or other materials, typically used as a runway or surface for vehicles to move on, such as a road, parking lot, or airport runway; (verb) to surface or pave a road or runway with tarmac
6. The situation quickly _____ and turned violent.
v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
7. When she stubbed her toe, she let out an _____ in pain.
n. a curse word or a swear word; a word or phrase used to convey strong emotions, such as anger or frustration

ANSWERS: 1. impeached, 2. quiescent, 3. doe, 4. spar, 5. tarmac, 6. escalated, 7. expletive

8. The strict deadlines will _____ the team to work efficiently.
- v. to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
9. The _____ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
- n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
10. His constant nitpicking and criticism only served to _____ his coworkers.
- v. to cause someone to feel anger or hostility; to provoke or irritate
11. Many European citizens living in the UK are concerned about their rights post-_____.
- n. (short for "British exit") the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union (EU), which originates from a nationwide referendum held in the UK on June 23, 2016, in which 51.9% of voters chose to leave the EU
12. God _____ you should regret your marriage.
- v. to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
13. 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.)
14. Rapid _____ has led to many environmental and social issues in cities.
- n. the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture

ANSWERS: 8. compel, 9. germ, 10. antagonize, 11. Brexit, 12. forbid, 13. institutionalize, 14. urbanization

15. I'll need to _____ the rainstorm to make it home without getting soaked.

- v.* to run faster or farther than someone or something else, often to escape from danger or capture; to outpace or outmaneuver someone or something in a competition or pursuit

16. The _____ rhetoric of the politician only seeks to sow division and hatred among people.

- adj.* showing strong dislike or fear of people from other countries or cultures; having a strong bias or prejudice against outsiders

17. The _____ architecture in the old city was a sight to behold.

- adj.* relating to or characteristic of the Normans, a people who originally came from Normandy, France, and who had a significant impact on the history and culture of Britain and other European countries; the term can also refer to a style of architecture or art that developed during the Norman period

18. You have no right to _____ on my leisure time.

- v.* to advance beyond the usual or acceptable limit gradually and often without being noticed; to infringe upon someone's territory, rights, privacy, etc.

19. 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

20. The country holds dominant _____ power over its neighbors.

- adj.* of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area

21. _____ based on race or ethnicity is illegal and unjust.

- n.* the act or process of separating or isolating people, things, or groups based on race, gender, religion, social class, or other characteristics; a political or social system that enforces such separation or isolation

ANSWERS: 15. outrun, 16. xenophobic, 17. Norman, 18. encroach, 19. trump, 20. geopolitical, 21. Segregation

22. The politician's stance on controversial issues made him an _____ candidate for many voters.
adj. not liked, supported, or approved by many people; having an unfavorable reputation
23. The volcano started to _____ lava and ash, causing panic among residents.
v. to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
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 rise of _____ has led to increased international trade and cultural exchange.
n. a political, economic, and social outlook that emphasizes the importance of global cooperation and interdependence, often associated with free trade, globalization of culture, and the spread of technology
26. The weather forecast warned of _____ conditions on the mountain pass.
adj. risky, uncertain, or unpredictable; involving a potential for danger or uncertain outcomes
27. My dog found a _____ on the floor and quickly ate it.
n. a small particle or fragment of food or other substance, often one that has broken off from a larger piece; a very small amount or portion of something
28. He performed his magic trick _____ leaving the audience in awe.
adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
29. The factory was located on the city's _____ away from residential areas.
n. the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people

ANSWERS: 22. unpopular, 23. spew, 24. steer, 25. globalism, 26. dicey, 27. crumb, 28. onstage, 29. periphery,

30. The government is investing in programs to support _____ and small business development.
- n.* the process or skill of starting and running a business, particularly a new and innovative one
31. _____ cooperation is important for global security and stability.
- adj.* relating to or situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, especially about travel communication or cultural exchange between Europe and North America

ANSWERS: 30. entrepreneurship, 31. Transatlantic