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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Louie Schwartzberg: Hidden miracles of the natural world | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/louie\\_schwartzberg\\_hidden\\_miracles\\_of\\_the\\_natural\\_world](https://www.ted.com/talks/louie_schwartzberg_hidden_miracles_of_the_natural_world)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### unseen

*adj.* not seen or noticed; not perceived

*synonym* : invisible, hidden, undercover

(1) **unseen** danger, (2) an **unseen** force

The consequences of the pandemic remain **unseen** as scientists continue to research the virus.

### lapse

*n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended

*synonym* : break, failure, blunder

(1) **lapse** back into recession, (2) **lapse** in payment

I missed the deadline due to a **lapse** in my memory.

### broaden

*v.* to make or become wider or more extensive; to make or become more tolerant or liberal.

*synonym* : expand, widen, enlarge

(1) **broaden** students' knowledge, (2) **broaden** their horizon

The company **broadened** its product line to include more customer options.

**creep**

*v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard

*synonym* : crawl, glide, encroach

(1) **creep** along the leaf, (2) **creep** toward the mouse

Aging **creeps** up slowly with time.

**restless**

*adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy

*synonym* : agitated, anxious, disturbed

(1) a **restless** person, (2) **restless** waves

He felt **restless** and constantly changed his postures.

**timelapse**

*n.* a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly

(1) **timelapse** photography, (2) capture **timelapse** footage

The **timelapse** video beautifully captured the changing seasons over a year.

**circulate**

*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system

*synonym* : flow, disperse, rotate

(1) **circulate** a rumor, (2) **circulate** an agenda before the meeting

The fan **circulates** the air in the room quickly.

**swirl**

*v.* to move in a circular or spiral pattern

*synonym* : spin, whirl, turn

(1) **swirl** the wine, (2) **swirl** up dirt and dust

The chef expertly **swirled** the sauce onto the plate.

**aurora**

*n.* a natural appearance of colored light in Earth's sky that is usually seen in high-latitude regions, especially around the Arctic and Antarctic

(1) **aurora** watching, (2) polar **aurora**

Northern and southern hemispheres alike experience the

**aurora.**

**boreal**

*adj.* relating to the Northern Hemisphere or relating to the northern forests called taiga

*synonym* : arctic, northern, tundra

(1) **boreal** conifer, (2) **boreal** ecosystem

The **boreal** forest covers vast areas of Canada and Alaska.

**ingenious**

*adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill

*synonym* : creative, innovative, inventive

(1) **ingenious** device, (2) **ingenious** idea

I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so **ingenious**.

**imitate**

*v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

*synonym* : mimic, emulate, replicate

(1) **imitate** painting styles, (2) **imitate** animal sounds

He **imitated** the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

**dragonfly**

*n.* a slender-bodied non-stinging insect having two pairs of large transparent wings that are outspread at rest

(1) **dragonfly** passing over the water, (2) **dragonfly** larva

I caught a rare **dragonfly** in the mountains.

**flutter**

*v.* to wave or flap quickly and lightly; (noun) the act of moving back and forth

*synonym* : flit, hover, wave

(1) **flutter** around finding, (2) a **flutter** of a bird

The butterfly **fluttered** its wings gracefully.

**hover**

*v.* to stay in one place in the air

*synonym* : hang, float over, drift

(1) **hover** between life and death, (2) **hover** around the table

Two birds were **hovering** overhead.

## 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.

## robotic

*adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

*synonym*: automated, mechanical, laborsaving

(1) **robotic** arm, (2) **robotic** guide operation

The surgeon removed the tumor using **robotic** video assistance.

## magnify

*v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder

*synonym*: enlarge, elaborate, intensify

(1) **magnify** the danger, (2) **magnify** the image for display

Terrorists often attempt to **magnify** the economic impact of their acts of destruction.

## eyelash

*n.* any of the short hairs that grow around the eyes

*synonym*: lash, cilium

(1) **eyelash** brush, (2) not bat an **eyelash**

An **eyelash** curler is a girl's best friend.

## caterpillar

*n.* the wormlike larva of a butterfly or moth

*synonym*: larva, grub, worm

(1) **caterpillar** of a butterfly, (2) **caterpillar** in a cocoon

The woolly bear **caterpillar** munched on leaves all day.

## eggshell

*n.* the hard, outer layer of an egg, typically thin and fragile, and has a slightly rough texture

*synonym* : shell, casing, membrane

(1) **eggshell** paint, (2) fragile **eggshell**

I gently removed the **eggshell** from the freshly boiled egg.

## flea

*n.* a small, agile, wingless, and parasitic insect that feeds on the blood of mammals and birds

*synonym* : pulex, siphonaptera, biter

(1) local **flea** market, (2) **flea** infestation

The **flea-borne** disease caused a severe outbreak in the city.

## snail

*n.* a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body

*synonym* : escargot, slug, whelk

(1) **snail** mail, (2) **snail** pace

The gardener found a **snail** slowly making its way through the lettuce patch.

## nanoscale

*adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

(1) **nanoscale** device, (2) things at the **nanoscale**

This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the **nanoscale** lattice structure of the metal.

## clog

*v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something

*synonym* : block, jam, obstruct

(1) **clog** a filter, (2) **clog** artery

The drain was **clogged** with hair and needed to be cleaned out.

## unveil

*v.* to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time

*synonym* : reveal, uncover, expose

(1) **unveil** a monument, (2) **unveil** a comprehensive plan

The company plans to **unveil** its new product at the trade

show next week.

## pollen

*n.* a fine powder substance consisting of microscopic grains produced by plants that facilitate their reproductive process through the process of pollination

*synonym*: dust, spores, allergen

(1) **pollen** allergy symptoms, (2) high **pollen** count

My allergies flare up during **pollen** season, making it difficult to breathe.

## supernova

*n.* a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant

*synonym*: explosion, detonation, blast

(1) extragalactic **supernova**, (2) **supernova** remnant

The **supernova** explosion created a bright new star in the night sky.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 1. ci_____te an agenda before the meeting | v. | to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system  |
| 2. ho__r around the table                 | v. | to stay in one place in the air   |
| 3. capture ti_____se footage              | n. | a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly |
| 4. sn__l pace                             | n. | a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body  |
| 5. cat_____ar of a butterfly              | n. | the wormlike larva of a butterfly or moth   |
| 6. ma_____y the image for display         | v. | to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder  |
| 7. sw__l up dirt and dust                 | v. | to move in a circular or spiral pattern   |
| 8. ma_____y the danger                    | v. | to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder  |
| 9. high po___n count                      | n. | a fine powder substance consisting of microscopic grains produced by plants that facilitate their reproductive process through the process of pollination                                       |

ANSWERS: 1. circulate, 2. hover, 3. timelapse, 4. snail, 5. caterpillar, 6. magnify, 7. swirl, 8. magnify, 9. pollen

10. la\_\_e back into recession *n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended
11. un\_\_\_l a monument *v.* to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time
12. cr\_\_p along the leaf *v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
13. br\_\_\_\_\_n students' knowledge *v.* to make or become wider or more extensive; to make or become more tolerant or liberal.
14. un\_\_\_n danger *adj.* not seen or noticed; not perceived
15. ci\_\_\_\_\_te a rumor *v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
16. ho\_\_r between life and death *v.* to stay in one place in the air
17. eg\_\_\_\_\_ll paint *n.* the hard, outer layer of an egg, typically thin and fragile, and has a slightly rough texture
18. fl\_\_\_\_\_r around finding *v.* to wave or flap quickly and lightly; (noun) the act of moving back and forth
19. sn\_\_l mail *n.* a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body
20. a fl\_\_\_\_\_r of a bird *v.* to wave or flap quickly and lightly; (noun) the act of moving back and forth
21. au\_\_\_a watching *n.* a natural appearance of colored light in Earth's sky that is usually seen in high-latitude regions, especially around the Arctic and Antarctic

ANSWERS: 10. lapse, 11. unveil, 12. creep, 13. broaden, 14. unseen, 15. circulate, 16. hover, 17. eggshell, 18. flutter, 19. snail, 20. flutter, 21. aurora



- |                                      |             |   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---|
| 22. vi_____ze data                   | <i>v.</i>   | to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible   |
| 23. cr__p toward the mouse           | <i>v.</i>   | to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard  |
| 24. bo___l conifer                   | <i>adj.</i> | relating to the Northern Hemisphere or relating to the northern forests called taiga  |
| 25. ti_____se photography            | <i>n.</i>   | a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly |
| 26. re_____ss waves                  | <i>adj.</i> | unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy   |
| 27. bo___l ecosystem                 | <i>adj.</i> | relating to the Northern Hemisphere or relating to the northern forests called taiga  |
| 28. im_____e painting styles         | <i>v.</i>   | to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something  |
| 29. ro_____c guide operation         | <i>adj.</i> | of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots   |
| 30. dr_____ly passing over the water | <i>n.</i>   | a slender-bodied non-stinging insect having two pairs of large transparent wings that are outspread at rest   |
| 31. sw__l the wine                   | <i>v.</i>   | to move in a circular or spiral pattern   |

ANSWERS: 22. visualize, 23. creep, 24. boreal, 25. timelapse, 26. restless, 27. boreal, 28. imitate, 29. robotic, 30. dragonfly, 31. swirl

32. br\_\_\_\_n their horizon      *v.* to make or become wider or more extensive; to make or become more tolerant or liberal.
33. c\_\_g artery      *v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something
34. po\_\_\_n allergy symptoms      *n.* a fine powder substance consisting of microscopic grains produced by plants that facilitate their reproductive process through the process of pollination
35. ro\_\_\_\_c arm      *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
36. fragile eg\_\_\_\_\_ll      *n.* the hard, outer layer of an egg, typically thin and fragile, and has a slightly rough texture
37. un\_\_\_l a comprehensive plan      *v.* to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time
38. a re\_\_\_\_\_ss person      *adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
39. dr\_\_\_\_\_ly larva      *n.* a slender-bodied non-stinging insect having two pairs of large transparent wings that are outspread at rest
40. in\_\_\_\_\_us device      *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
41. vi\_\_\_\_\_ze flying through space      *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

ANSWERS: 32. broaden, 33. clog, 34. pollen, 35. robotic, 36. eggshell, 37. unveil, 38. restless, 39. dragonfly, 40. ingenious, 41. visualize

42. im\_\_\_\_\_e animal sounds      *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
43. things at the na\_\_\_\_\_le      *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
44. ey\_\_\_\_\_h brush      *n.* any of the short hairs that grow around the eyes
45. in\_\_\_\_\_us idea      *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
46. su\_\_\_\_\_va remnant      *n.* a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant
47. extragalactic su\_\_\_\_\_va      *n.* a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant
48. f\_\_a infestation      *n.* a small, agile, wingless, and parasitic insect that feeds on the blood of mammals and birds
49. an un\_\_\_n force      *adj.* not seen or noticed; not perceived
50. c\_\_g a filter      *v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something
51. cat\_\_\_\_\_ar in a cocoon      *n.* the wormlike larva of a butterfly or moth
52. na\_\_\_\_\_le device      *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

ANSWERS: 42. imitate, 43. nanoscale, 44. eyelash, 45. ingenious, 46. supernova, 47. supernova, 48. flea, 49. unseen, 50. clog, 51. caterpillar, 52. nanoscale

53. polar au\_\_\_a *n.* a natural appearance of colored light in Earth's sky that is usually seen in high-latitude regions, especially around the Arctic and Antarctic
54. local f\_\_a market *n.* a small, agile, wingless, and parasitic insect that feeds on the blood of mammals and birds
55. la\_\_e in payment *n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended
56. not bat an ey\_\_\_\_\_h *n.* any of the short hairs that grow around the eyes

ANSWERS: 53. aurora, 54. flea, 55. lapse, 56. eyelash

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He felt \_\_\_\_\_ and constantly changed his postures.  
*adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
2. Aging \_\_\_\_\_ up slowly with time.  
*v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
3. The butterfly \_\_\_\_\_ its wings gracefully.  
*v.* to wave or flap quickly and lightly; (noun) the act of moving back and forth
4. The surgeon removed the tumor using \_\_\_\_\_ video assistance.  
*adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
5. The company \_\_\_\_\_ its product line to include more customer options.  
*v.* to make or become wider or more extensive; to make or become more tolerant or liberal.
6. Two birds were \_\_\_\_\_ overhead.  
*v.* to stay in one place in the air
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ disease caused a severe outbreak in the city.  
*n.* a small, agile, wingless, and parasitic insect that feeds on the blood of mammals and birds
8. The fan \_\_\_\_\_ the air in the room quickly.  
*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system

ANSWERS: 1. restless, 2. creeps, 3. fluttered, 4. robotic, 5. broadened, 6. hovering, 7. flea-borne, 8. circulates

9. I missed the deadline due to a \_\_\_\_\_ in my memory.

*n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended

10. I caught a rare \_\_\_\_\_ in the mountains.

*n.* a slender-bodied non-stinging insect having two pairs of large transparent wings that are outspread at rest

11. The \_\_\_\_\_ video beautifully captured the changing seasons over a year.

*n.* a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly

12. The drain was \_\_\_\_\_ with hair and needed to be cleaned out.

*v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something

13. This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the \_\_\_\_\_ lattice structure of the metal.

*adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

14. The consequences of the pandemic remain \_\_\_\_\_ as scientists continue to research the virus.

*adj.* not seen or noticed; not perceived

15. I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so \_\_\_\_\_.

*adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill

ANSWERS: 9. lapse, 10. dragonfly, 11. timelapse, 12. clogged, 13. nanoscale, 14. unseen, 15. ingenious

16. The wooly bear \_\_\_\_\_ munched on leaves all day.  
*n.* the wormlike larva of a butterfly or moth
17. I gently removed the \_\_\_\_\_ from the freshly boiled egg.  
*n.* the hard, outer layer of an egg, typically thin and fragile, and has a slightly rough texture
18. My allergies flare up during \_\_\_\_\_ season, making it difficult to breathe.  
*n.* a fine powder substance consisting of microscopic grains produced by plants that facilitate their reproductive process through the process of pollination
19. Terrorists often attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ the economic impact of their acts of destruction.  
*v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
20. The \_\_\_\_\_ forest covers vast areas of Canada and Alaska.  
*adj.* relating to the Northern Hemisphere or relating to the northern forests called taiga
21. An \_\_\_\_\_ curler is a girl's best friend.  
*n.* any of the short hairs that grow around the eyes
22. She tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the layout of the new house in her mind.  
*v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
23. The chef expertly \_\_\_\_\_ the sauce onto the plate.  
*v.* to move in a circular or spiral pattern

ANSWERS: 16. caterpillar, 17. eggshell, 18. pollen, 19. magnify, 20. boreal, 21. eyelash, 22. visualize, 23. swirled

24. He \_\_\_\_\_ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.
- v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
25. The \_\_\_\_\_ explosion created a bright new star in the night sky.
- n. a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant
26. Northern and southern hemispheres alike experience the \_\_\_\_\_.
- n. a natural appearance of colored light in Earth's sky that is usually seen in high-latitude regions, especially around the Arctic and Antarctic
27. The gardener found a \_\_\_\_\_ slowly making its way through the lettuce patch.
- n. a slow-moving mollusk with a spiral shell that it uses to protect its body
28. The company plans to \_\_\_\_\_ its new product at the trade show next week.
- v. to reveal or make something publicly known, especially for the first time

ANSWERS: 24. imitated, 25. supernova, 26. aurora, 27. snail, 28. unveil