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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Marjee Chmiel and Trevor Owens: Is there a center of the universe? | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/marjee_chmiel_and_trevor _owens_is_there_a_center_of_the_universe



All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

universe

 everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy

synonym: cosmos, macrocosm

(1) theory of the **universe**, (2) expansion of the **universe** The **universe** is about 13.8 billion years old.

essential

adj. indispensable; fundamental synonym: critical, crucial, basic

(1) **essential** amino acid, (2) **essential** commodities of life Trial and error is an **essential** part of education.

sphere

 a round object or geometric shape that is three-dimensional and symmetrical around a central point; a particular aspect or scope of life or activity

synonym: ball, globe, scope

(1) **sphere** of influence, (2) business **sphere**The **sphere** of the earth is divided into several layers including the crust, mantle, and core.

shift

n. a slight transition in position, direction, or trendsynonym: transition, change, modification

(1) Doppler shift, (2) major paradigm shift

Could you help me **shift** some furniture?

nest

 a structure in which animals lay their eggs or give birth to their young

synonym: roost, perch, burrow

(1) bird's **nest**, (2) a **nest** of thieves

The female birds build a **nest** and lay their eggs in May.

solid

adj. hard or firm; characterized by good substantial quality synonym: stable, reliable, hard

(1) solid ally, (2) solid employment measures

The **solid-state** of water is called ice.

crystalline

 adj. resembling crystal in clarity, transparency, or brilliance;
 having a highly ordered and symmetrical molecular structure

synonym: crystallized, clear, transparent

(1) **crystalline** structure, (2) **crystalline** water

The geologist found a beautiful specimen of a **crystalline** mineral.

wander

v. to walk around slowly or to a place, often without any clear purpose or direction

synonym: ramble, roam, stroll

(1) **wander** alone in a strange country, (2) **wander** far from home

I often wander around the park for half an hour.

planet

 any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star

synonym: earth, world, globe

(1) planet like the Earth, (2) save the planet

Mercury is the closest **planet** to the sun.

crystal

 a solid material with many even sides that is formed naturally when the substance becomes solid and has a highly regular atomic structure; clear and colorless glass made of almost pure silica

synonym: quartz

(1) liquid crystal, (2) crystal analyses

A vast **crystal** chandelier glittered brightly above us.

propose

- v. to make a proposal, declare a plan for somethingsynonym: suggest, offer, recommend
- (1) **propose** the amendment, (2) **propose** changes I want to **propose** a toast in honor of our longstanding relationship.

subsequent

- adj. happening or occurring later or after something else synonym: later, following, ensuing
- (1) over **subsequent** months, (2) reduce **subsequent** mortality

In the **subsequent** meeting, the team discussed ways to improve productivity.

discovery

 the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known

synonym: finding, uncovering, detection

(1) a scientific **discovery**, (2) the great **discovery** of the century

Her research team made an important discovery.

centric

adj. tending towards or focused on a particular center, point, or perspective, sometimes to the exclusion of others; emphasizing or prioritizing a specific thing or group; (noun) something that is at the center or core of a specific thing or system

synonym: focused, centralized, concentrated

(1) technology- **centric** approach, (2) employee- **centric** policies

The hotel's customer- centric approach always puts the

needs and satisfaction of guests first.

ignore

- v. to intentionally not listen or pay attention to synonym: neglect, disregard, shun
- (1) **ignore** her advice, (2) **ignore** a ban Since independence, the area has been completely **ignored**.

orbit

n. the path of an object around a celestial body, especially a planet, star, or moon, under the influence of gravity; (of medicine) the bony cavity in the skull that houses the eyeball and its associated structures, like muscles, nerves, and blood vessels

synonym: path, course, trajectory

the orbit of the moon, (2) a planetary orbit
 The rocket engine is used to put the satellite into orbit.

telescope

- a device like a tube in shape containing lenses used to magnify and observe distant objects
- (1) a binocular **telescope**, (2) look through a **telescope** This facility has the largest astronomical **telescope** in the country.

Jovian

adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics synonym: Jupiter, giant planet

(1) Jovian satellites, (2) Jovian planet

The **Jovian** moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.

Newtonian

adj. relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation

synonym: classical, physics, mechanics

(1) **Newtonian** physics, (2) **Newtonian** mechanics
The motion of planets can be described using **Newtonian** mechanics.

universal

adj. existing or affecting everywhere or everyone synonym: common, broad, worldwide

(1) **universal** life, (2) principles of **universal** design

The picture earned near- **universal** acclaim from critics.

gravitation

n. the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass

synonym: attraction, pull, gravity

(1) terrestrial **gravitation**, (2) universal **gravitation**The force of **gravitation** keeps the planets in our solar system in orbit around the sun.

demonstrate

v. to display something or give an exhibition to an interested audience

synonym: show, illustrate, display

(1) **demonstrate** a difference, (2) **demonstrate** mastery How can you **demonstrate** that the earth is a sphere?

eventually

adv. finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on

synonym: finally, someday, ultimately

(1) **eventually** become obsolete, (2) **eventually** succeed The corporation **eventually** dominated the entire tobacco business.

friar

n. a member of a religious community who lives a contemplative or ascetic lifestyle, often associated with the Roman Catholic or Anglican Church; a medieval European monk who traveled and preached in rural areas

synonym: monk, brother, religious

(1) friar's balsam, (2) Dominican friar

The **friar's** duties extended beyond the church and into the local community.

infinite

adj. unlimited or very great; impossible to measure synonym: boundless, countless, limitless

(1) infinite appetite, (2) infinite in supply

Page 5 / 25

The battle had an **infinite** impact on the nation.

stake

 a share or financial investment in something such as a business; a wooden or metal post set up to mark something

synonym: share, interest, post

(1) execution by burning at a **stake**, (2) buy the company's **stake**

The **stake** of the company is too high nowadays.

philosophy

- n. the study of general and fundamental questions, such as those about existence, reason, knowledge, values, mind
 synonym: doctrine, attitude, creed
- (1) **philosophy** of education, (2) western **philosophy** Ethics is a branch of **philosophy**.

whirlpool

 a rapidly rotating mass of water or air, especially one in a river or sea, causing a suction or vortex

synonym: maelstrom, vortex, eddy

(1) **whirlpool** effect, (2) **whirlpool** bathtub

The river had several dangerous **whirlpools** that were difficult to navigate.

vortex

n. a mass of whirling air, water, dust, or smoke, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind

synonym: whirlpool, whirlwind, maelstrom

(1) vortex formation, (2) blow in a vortex

The **vortex** of the tornado was massive and destructive.

astronomer

- n. a physicist who studies astronomysynonym: stargazer, cosmologist, astrophysicist
- amateur astronomer, (2) solar astronomer
 This question has fascinated solar astronomers for decades.

advance

v. to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way synonym: progress, boost, come along

(1) **advance** the technology, (2) **advance** a cooperative relationship

Scientific knowledge will **advance** significantly with the power of AI.

smudge

n. a blurry or dirty mark or stain left by rubbing or smearing something; also, a bundle of material, such as sage or incense, that is burned to produce smoke for purification or ritual purposes

synonym: blemish, mark, stain

(1) ink smudge, (2) lipstick smudge

She accidentally left a **smudge** on the newly painted wall.

galaxy

- n. an independent group of stars, interstellar gas, dark matter, etc., in the universe, bound together by gravity
 synonym: star cluster, nebula, star system
- elliptic galaxy, (2) a galaxy of famous actors
 The Milky Way galaxy has numerous water-bearing planets.

vast

adj. enormous in size, number, amount, or quantity synonym: expansive, extended, boundless

(1) vast majority, (2) vast desert

A vast audience viewed the broadcast.

nebula

 a cloud of gas and dust in space, visible in the night sky, typically as a diffuse light source

synonym: cloud, mist, stardust

(1) a spiral nebula, (2) emission nebula

The galactic **nebula** was a beautiful sight through the telescope, with its vibrant colors and swirling clouds.

observation

 the act or activity of carefully examining or monitoring something or someone

synonym: watching, notice, reflection

(1) class **observation** day, (2) **observation** instrument In the hospital, she will remain under constant **observation**.

bang

v. to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise

synonym: crash, hit, smash

(1) **bang** his fist on a desk, (2) **bang** a phone down My father tried to **bang** mathematics into my head since childhood.

accord

- n. an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb) allow to have synonym: alliance, pact, agreement
- (1) **accord** with public opinion, (2) binational **accord** The organization finally signed a peace **accord**.

singular

- n. being only one of its kind; unique synonym: unique, sole, individual
- (1) **singular** purpose, (2) **singular** goal

The **singular** beauty of the night sky never ceases to amaze him.

dense

adj. containing a large number of people or something with little space between them

synonym: heavy, thick, idiotic

nutrient- dense foods, (2) dense forests
 The entire mountain is covered in dense rainforest.

particle

- n. a small piece of something; a word or piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significancesynonym: atom, grain, bit
- (1) charged particle, (2) particle energyWe can calculate the position of the particles statistically.

eliminate

- v. to remove or get rid of someone or somethingsynonym: wipe out, destroy, eradicate
- (1) **eliminate** contestants, (2) **eliminate** sexual barriers We can **eliminate** this possibility from those consumptions.

speculate

v. to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

synonym: assume, conjecture, infer

(1) **speculate** about the reason, (2) **speculate** on the outcome

He **speculated** that this investment would lead to success.

humble

adj. having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's quality or importance

synonym: modest, unpretentious, abject

(1) a humble cottage, (2) humble opinion

The nobler, the more humble.

propel

v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

synonym: drive, push, move

(1) **propel** growth, (2) **propel** the ship

An increase in employment helps **propel** economic growth.

perplexing

adj. causing confusion or uncertainty; difficult to understand or explain; puzzling or mystifying

synonym: puzzling, confusing, baffling

(1) perplexing situation, (2) perplexing problem

The novel's ambiguous ending left readers with a **perplexing** message.

Session 2: Spelling

1. bird's n__t

2. ad___e a cooperative relationship

3. vo___x formation

4. western phi____hy

5. lipstick sm___e

6. per ng situation

7. sp te on the outcome

8. fr__r's balsam

a structure in which animals lay their eggs or give birth to their young

v. to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way

 a mass of whirling air, water, dust, or smoke, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind

 n. the study of general and fundamental questions, such as those about existence, reason, knowledge, values, mind

n. a blurry or dirty mark or stain left by rubbing or smearing something; also, a bundle of material, such as sage or incense, that is burned to produce smoke for purification or ritual purposes

adj. causing confusion or uncertainty;difficult to understand or explain;puzzling or mystifying

v. to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

n. a member of a religious community who lives a contemplative or ascetic lifestyle, often associated with the Roman Catholic or Anglican Church; a medieval European monk who traveled and preached in rural areas

ANSWERS: 1. nest, 2. advance, 3. vortex, 4. philosophy, 5. smudge, 6. perplexing, 7. speculate, 8. friar

9.	emission nea	n.	a cloud of gas and dust in space, visible in the night sky, typically as a diffuse light source	
10.	crI analyses	n.	a solid material with many even sides that is formed naturally when the substance becomes solid and has a highly regular atomic structure; clear and colorless glass made of almost pure silica	
11.	a scientific diry	n.	the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known	
12.	ige her advice	<i>v</i> .	to intentionally not listen or pay attention to	
13.	employee-cec policies	adj.	tending towards or focused on a particular center, point, or perspective, sometimes to the exclusion of others; emphasizing or prioritizing a specific thing or group; (noun) something that is at the center or core of a specific thing or system	
14.	spe of influence	n.	a round object or geometric shape that is three-dimensional and symmetrical around a central point; a particular aspect or scope of life or activity	
15.	cryne water	adj.	resembling crystal in clarity, transparency, or brilliance; having a highly ordered and symmetrical molecular structure	
ANSWERS: 9. nebula, 10. crystal, 11. discovery, 12. ignore, 13. centric, 14. sphere,				

15. crystalline

16. el te sexual barriers to remove or get rid of someone or ν. something a device like a tube in shape containing 17. look through a te____pe n. lenses used to magnify and observe distant objects 18. wh____ol effect a rapidly rotating mass of water or air, n. especially one in a river or sea, causing a suction or vortex 19. pr I growth to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force 20. dem____te mastery to display something or give an exhibition to an interested audience 21. es____al amino acid adj. indispensable; fundamental 22. wa___r far from home to walk around slowly or to a place, ν. often without any clear purpose or direction to form a theory or conjecture or guess 23. sp te about the reason ν. about a subject without solid evidence a round object or geometric shape that 24. business sp e n. is three-dimensional and symmetrical around a central point; a particular aspect or scope of life or activity being only one of its kind; unique 25. si____ar purpose n. 26. Jo n planet adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics 27. b g a phone down to hit or cause to hit something in a way ν. that makes a loud noise

ANSWERS: 16. eliminate, 17. telescope, 18. whirlpool, 19. propel, 20. demonstrate, 21. essential, 22. wander, 23. speculate, 24. sphere, 25. singular, 26. Jovian, 27. bang

28.	major paradigm sht	n.	a slight transition in position, direction, or trend
29.	blow in a vox	n.	a mass of whirling air, water, dust, or smoke, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind
30.	esal commodities of life	adj.	indispensable; fundamental
31.	perng problem	adj.	causing confusion or uncertainty; difficult to understand or explain; puzzling or mystifying
32.	principles of unal design	adj.	existing or affecting everywhere or everyone
33.	pale energy	n.	a small piece of something; a word or piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance
34.	terrestrial graon	n.	the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass
35.	a gay of famous actors	n.	an independent group of stars, interstellar gas, dark matter, etc., in the universe, bound together by gravity
36.	evely succeed	adv.	finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so or
37.	universal graon	n.	the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass
38.	amateur aster	n.	a physicist who studies astronomy

ANSWERS: 28. shift, 29. vortex, 30. essential, 31. perplexing, 32. universal, 33. particle, 34. gravitation, 35. galaxy, 36. eventually, 37. gravitation, 38. astronomer

or monitoring something or some 1. acd with public opinion 1. an official agreement or treaty be two organizations, countries, etc. allow to have 1. a small piece of something; a word piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance function but little or no sign	39.	prI the ship	<i>v</i> .	to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, ofter with a lot of force
two organizations, countries, etc. allow to have 42. charged pale n. a small piece of something; a word piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance described by good substantial quality 44. war alone in a strange country 45. a binocular tepe n. a device like a tube in shape contilenses used to magnify and observed distant objects 46. pre the amendment 47. the great diry of the century n. the act or process of finding informal place, or an object, or learning something that was previously not known 48. ade the technology v. to go or move forward; to develop positive way	40.	class obson day	n.	the act or activity of carefully examining or monitoring something or someone
piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance. 43. sod ally 44. war alone in a strange country 45. a binocular tepe 76. pre the amendment 47. the great diry of the century 48. ade the technology piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance. 4adj. hard or firm; characterized by good substantial quality 4b. hard or firm; characterized by good substantial quality 4c. to walk around slowly or to a place often without any clear purpose of direction 4c. a device like a tube in shape contlenses used to magnify and observed distant objects 4c. pre the amendment 4c. to make a proposal, declare a place something 4c. the great diry of the century 4c. to make a proposal, declare a place something 4c. the act or process of finding informatical place, or an object, or learning something that was previously not known 4c. pre the technology 4c. pre the technology 4c. pre the technology 4c. pre the technology 4c. pre the amendment 4c.	41.	acd with public opinion	n.	an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb allow to have
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positive way	47.	the great diry of the century	n.	the act or process of finding information a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
49. solar aster n. a physicist who studies astronom	48.	ade the technology	<i>v</i> .	to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way
	49.	solar aster	n.	a physicist who studies astronomy

ANSWERS: 39. propel, 40. observation, 41. accord, 42. particle, 43. solid, 44. wander, 45. telescope, 46. propose, 47. discovery, 48. advance, 49. astronomer

50.	reduce subnt mortality	adj.	happening or occurring later or after something else
51.	binational acd	n.	an official agreement or treaty between two organizations, countries, etc.; (verb allow to have
52.	hue opinion	adj.	having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's quality or importance
53.	vt desert	adj.	enormous in size, number, amount, or quantity
54.	obson instrument	n.	the act or activity of carefully examining or monitoring something or someone
55.	inte in supply	adj.	unlimited or very great; impossible to measure
56.	over subnt months	adj.	happening or occurring later or after something else
57.	liquid crI	n.	a solid material with many even sides that is formed naturally when the substance becomes solid and has a highly regular atomic structure; clear and colorless glass made of almost pure silica
58.	a hue cottage	adj.	having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's quality or importance
59.	Doppler sht	n.	a slight transition in position, direction, or trend
60.	expansion of the unse	n.	everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy

ANSWERS: 50. subsequent, 51. accord, 52. humble, 53. vast, 54. observation, 55. infinite, 56. subsequent, 57. crystal, 58. humble, 59. shift, 60. universe

- 61. save the pl___t
- 62. a n_t of thieves
- 63. technology-ce___c approach

- 64. b_g his fist on a desk
- 65. si____ar goal
- 66. ink sm___e
- 67. ig___e a ban
- 68. theory of the un___se
- 69. Ne an mechanics

- any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
- a structure in which animals lay their eggs or give birth to their young
- adj. tending towards or focused on a particular center, point, or perspective, sometimes to the exclusion of others; emphasizing or prioritizing a specific thing or group; (noun) something that is at the center or core of a specific thing or system
- to hit or cause to hit something in a way that makes a loud noise
- n. being only one of its kind; unique
- n. a blurry or dirty mark or stain left by rubbing or smearing something; also, a bundle of material, such as sage or incense, that is burned to produce smoke for purification or ritual purposes
- v. to intentionally not listen or pay attention to
- everything that exists, especially all physical matter, including planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy
- adj. relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation

ANSWERS: 61. planet, 62. nest, 63. centric, 64. bang, 65. singular, 66. smudge, 67. ignore, 68. universe, 69. Newtonian

- 70. pl__t like the Earth
- 71. v__t majority
- 72. Dominican fr__r

- 73. a spiral ne___a
- 74. un al life
- 75. dem te a difference
- 76. a planetary or t

77. the or__t of the moon

- any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
- adj. enormous in size, number, amount, or quantity
- n. a member of a religious community who lives a contemplative or ascetic lifestyle, often associated with the Roman Catholic or Anglican Church; a medieval European monk who traveled and preached in rural areas
- a cloud of gas and dust in space, visible in the night sky, typically as a diffuse light source
- adj. existing or affecting everywhere or everyone
- v. to display something or give an exhibition to an interested audience
- n. the path of an object around a celestial body, especially a planet, star, or moon, under the influence of gravity; (of medicine) the bony cavity in the skull that houses the eyeball and its associated structures, like muscles, nerves, and blood vessels
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ANSWERS: 70. planet, 71. vast, 72. friar, 73. nebula, 74. universal, 75. demonstrate, 76. orbit, 77. orbit

78.	elte contestants	v.	to remove or get rid of someone or something
79.	evely become obsolete	adv.	finally, particularly after a long time or a lot of struggle, complications, and so on
80.	whol bathtub	n.	a rapidly rotating mass of water or air, especially one in a river or sea, causing a suction or vortex
81.	nutrient-dee foods	adj.	containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
82.	dee forests	adj.	containing a large number of people or something with little space between them
83.	phihy of education	n.	the study of general and fundamental questions, such as those about existence, reason, knowledge, values, mind
84.	cryne structure	adj.	resembling crystal in clarity, transparency, or brilliance; having a highly ordered and symmetrical molecular structure
85.	elliptic gay	n.	an independent group of stars, interstellar gas, dark matter, etc., in the universe, bound together by gravity
86.	Nean physics	adj.	relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation
87.	buy the company's ste	n.	a share or financial investment in something such as a business; a wooden or metal post set up to mark something

ANSWERS: 78. eliminate, 79. eventually, 80. whirlpool, 81. dense, 82. dense, 83. philosophy, 84. crystalline, 85. galaxy, 86. Newtonian, 87. stake

- 88. in____te appetite
- 89. Jo___n satellites
- 90. execution by burning at a st__e
- 91. so__d employment measures
- 92. pr___e changes

- adj. unlimited or very great; impossible to measure
- adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
- a share or financial investment in something such as a business; a wooden or metal post set up to mark something
- adj. hard or firm; characterized by good substantial quality
- v. to make a proposal, declare a plan for something

ANSWERS: 88. infinite, 89. Jovian, 90. stake, 91. solid, 92. propose

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Mercury is the closest to the sun.
 any of the nine large celestial bodies that circle in the solar system; any celestial body that revolves around a star
2. The of the earth is divided into several layers including the crust, mantle, and core.
 a round object or geometric shape that is three-dimensional and symmetrical around a central point; a particular aspect or scope of life or activity
3. In the meeting, the team discussed ways to improve productivity.
adj. happening or occurring later or after something else
4. The of the tornado was massive and destructive.
n. a mass of whirling air, water, dust, or smoke, especially a whirlpool or whirlwind
5. The geologist found a beautiful specimen of a mineral.
adj. resembling crystal in clarity, transparency, or brilliance; having a highly ordered and symmetrical molecular structure
6. Ethics is a branch of
n. the study of general and fundamental questions, such as those about existence, reason, knowledge, values, mind
7. A audience viewed the broadcast.
adj. enormous in size, number, amount, or quantity
8. The beauty of the night sky never ceases to amaze him.
n. being only one of its kind; unique
ANSWERS: 1. planet, 2. sphere, 3. subsequent, 4. vortex, 5. crystalline, 6. philosophy, 7. vast, 8. singular

eventually, 15. nebula, 16. friar's

ANSWERS: 17. humble, 18. centric, 19. crystal, 20. universe, 21. eliminate, 22. perplexing, 23. accord

Vocab-Builder Ref from "Marjee Chmiel and Trevor Owens: Is there a center of the universe? | TED Talk" (46 words)