

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Michael Porter: The case for letting business solve social problems | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

deforest

v. to clear an area of forest or trees

synonym: clear-cut, strip, denude

(1) **deforest** a mountain, (2) **deforest** millions of acres

The company planned to **deforest** a large rainforest area to make way for a new plantation.

insecure

adj. not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

synonym: uncertain, unsure, unconfident

(1) an **insecure** future, (2) **insecure** attachment

Children in an unstructured environment often feel **insecure**.

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.

ponder

v. to think deeply or carefully about something

synonym: think about, consider, reflect on

(1) **ponder** divine matters, (2) **ponder** life's meaning

She sat quietly, **pondering** the difficult decision.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

philanthropy

n. the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money

synonym : altruism, benevolence, generosity

(1) **philanthropy** organization, (2) private **philanthropy**

Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on **philanthropy**.

mobilize

v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

synonym : activate, rally, marshal

(1) **mobilize** cooperation, (2) **mobilize** a stiff joint

The military **mobilized** troops to the border.

societal

adj. relating to society or social relationships

synonym : social, communal, cultural

(1) **societal** norms, (2) **societal** expectations

The **societal** pressure to conform is strong in this community.

daunting

adj. looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something

synonym : intimidating, stunning, disheartening

(1) face the **daunting** reality, (2) seem like a **daunting** task

My homework was **daunting** and complex, but it was also intriguing.

intractable

adj. difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate

synonym : obstinate, stubborn, unyielding

(1) **intractable** pain, (2) **intractable** situation
The **intractable** problem defied a solution.

philanthropic

adj. characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money or providing charitable aid; of or relating to the practice of philanthropy

synonym : charitable, benevolent, generous

(1) **philanthropic** donation, (2) **philanthropic** mission
The **philanthropic** organization donated millions of dollars to fund medical research.

scarcity

n. the state of being in short supply; a small and inadequate amount

synonym : lack, absence, dearth

(1) fuel **scarcity**, (2) **scarcity** of capital
Some research says that a relative decline in teacher salaries is causing labor **scarcity**.

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.

trade-off

n. a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

synonym : compromise, balance, exchange

(1) **trade-off** problem, (2) environmental **trade-off**
There was a **trade-off** between speed and accuracy in the task.

pollute

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste

matter or harmful chemicals

synonym : contaminate, corrupt, degrade

(1) **pollute** the air, (2) **pollute** the thread

We should do our best not to **pollute** the environment.

simplistic

adj. oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms

synonym : basic, uncomplicated, elementary

(1) **simplistic** approach, (2) **simplistic** design

The politician's solution to the problem was too **simplistic** to solve the underlying issue.

synergy

n. the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements

synonym : cooperation, collaboration, partnership

(1) **synergy** collaboration, (2) **synergy** between businesses

The new software program was designed to increase productivity by promoting employee **synergy**.

drip

v. to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops

synonym : drop, drizzle, trickle

(1) **drip** liquid, (2) **drip** from the vicious wound

Water is **dripping** from the faucet.

eucalyptus

n. a genus of flowering trees and shrubs native to Australia that are known for their aromatic leaves and medicinal properties

synonym : gum tree, Australian tree

(1) **eucalyptus** oil, (2) **eucalyptus** leaves

The scent of **eucalyptus** is often used in aromatherapy to promote relaxation.

hectare

n. a unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters

(1) **hectare** land, (2) housing per **hectare**

The farm spans over 100 **hectares** of land.

opportune

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

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

disseminate

v. to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse

synonym: spread, circulate, propagate

(1) **disseminate** propaganda, (2) **disseminate** knowledge

It is important to **disseminate** accurate information to the public to prevent false rumors from spreading.

unleash

v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled

synonym: discharge, free, release

(1) **unleash** a hound, (2) **unleash** her anger

The general was still reluctant to **unleash** his troops in pursuit of an enemy.

uneasy

adj. causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort

synonym: anxious, troubled, nervous

(1) have **uneasy** eyes, (2) **uneasy** relationship

He was **uneasy** about the situation and didn't know what to do.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sc____ty of capital *n.* the state of being in short supply; a small and inadequate amount
2. fuel sc____ty *n.* the state of being in short supply; a small and inadequate amount
3. ind____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
4. d__p liquid *v.* to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops
5. un____h her anger *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
6. dis____te knowledge *v.* to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse
7. phi____pic donation *adj.* characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money or providing charitable aid; of or relating to the practice of philanthropy
8. sim____ic approach *adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
9. housing per he____e *n.* a unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters

ANSWERS: 1. scarcity, 2. scarcity, 3. industrious, 4. drip, 5. unleash, 6. disseminate, 7. philanthropic, 8. simplistic, 9. hectare

10. phi_____pic mission *adj.* characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money or providing charitable aid; of or relating to the practice of philanthropy
11. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
12. de_____st millions of acres *v.* to clear an area of forest or trees
13. un____y relationship *adj.* causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
14. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
15. he_____e land *n.* a unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters
16. un_____h a hound *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
17. tr_____ff problem *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
18. euc_____us leaves *n.* a genus of flowering trees and shrubs native to Australia that are known for their aromatic leaves and medicinal properties
19. po____r life's meaning *v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
20. environmental tr_____ff *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

ANSWERS: 10. philanthropic, 11. opportune, 12. deforest, 13. uneasy, 14. institutionalize, 15. hectare, 16. unleash, 17. trade-off, 18. eucalyptus, 19. ponder, 20. trade-off

21. euc_____us oil *n.* a genus of flowering trees and shrubs native to Australia that are known for their aromatic leaves and medicinal properties
22. so_____al expectations *adj.* relating to society or social relationships
23. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
24. d__p from the vicious wound *v.* to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops
25. have un____y eyes *adj.* causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
26. sy_____y collaboration *n.* the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements
27. so_____al norms *adj.* relating to society or social relationships
28. mo_____ze a stiff joint *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
29. phi_____opy organization *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
30. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
31. fo___d smoking in public areas *v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
32. fo___d the use of chemical weapons *v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising

ANSWERS: 21. eucalyptus, 22. societal, 23. opportune, 24. drip, 25. uneasy, 26. synergy, 27. societal, 28. mobilize, 29. philanthropy, 30. industrious, 31. forbid, 32. forbid

33. int_____le situation *adj.* difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
34. sim_____ic design *adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
35. mo_____ze cooperation *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
36. sy_____y between businesses *n.* the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements
37. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
38. dis_____te propaganda *v.* to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse
39. de_____st a mountain *v.* to clear an area of forest or trees
40. in_____re attachment *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety
41. int_____le pain *adj.* difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
42. po_____r divine matters *v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
43. face the da_____ng reality *adj.* looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something

ANSWERS: 33. intractable, 34. simplistic, 35. mobilize, 36. synergy, 37. institutionalize, 38. disseminate, 39. deforest, 40. insecure, 41. intractable, 42. ponder, 43. daunting

44. po____e the thread *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
45. seem like a da____ng task *adj.* looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something
46. po____e the air *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
47. private phi______opy *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
48. an in____re future *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

ANSWERS: 44. pollute, 45. daunting, 46. pollute, 47. philanthropy, 48. insecure

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
2. The general was still reluctant to _____ his troops in pursuit of an enemy.
v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
3. Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on _____.
n. the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
4. The new software program was designed to increase productivity by promoting employee _____.
n. the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements
5. My homework was _____ and complex, but it was also intriguing.
adj. looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something
6. The _____ problem defied a solution.
adj. difficult to manage or control; stubborn or obstinate
7. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
8. The farm spans over 100 _____ of land.
n. a unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters

ANSWERS: 1. industrious, 2. unleash, 3. philanthropy, 4. synergy, 5. daunting, 6. intractable, 7. opportune, 8. hectares

9. God _____ you should regret your marriage.

- v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising

10. The _____ pressure to conform is strong in this community.

- adj.* relating to society or social relationships

11. There was a _____ between speed and accuracy in the task.

- n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

12. Some research says that a relative decline in teacher salaries is causing labor _____.

- n.* the state of being in short supply; a small and inadequate amount

13. Water is _____ from the faucet.

- v.* to fall in drops or make it fall in drops; (noun) liquid or moisture that falls in drops

14. We should do our best not to _____ the environment.

- v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

15. Children in an unstructured environment often feel _____.

- adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

16. It is important to _____ accurate information to the public to prevent false rumors from spreading.

- v.* to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse

ANSWERS: 9. forbid, 10. societal, 11. trade-off, 12. scarcity, 13. dripping, 14. pollute, 15. insecure, 16. disseminate

17. 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.)
18. She sat quietly, _____ the difficult decision.
- v. to think deeply or carefully about something
19. The scent of _____ is often used in aromatherapy to promote relaxation.
- n. a genus of flowering trees and shrubs native to Australia that are known for their aromatic leaves and medicinal properties
20. The military _____ troops to the border.
- v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
21. The politician's solution to the problem was too _____ to solve the underlying issue.
- adj. oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
22. The company planned to _____ a large rainforest area to make way for a new plantation.
- v. to clear an area of forest or trees
23. He was _____ about the situation and didn't know what to do.
- adj. causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
24. The _____ organization donated millions of dollars to fund medical research.
- adj. characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money or providing charitable aid; of or relating to the practice of philanthropy

ANSWERS: 17. institutionalize, 18. pondering, 19. eucalyptus, 20. mobilized, 21. simplistic, 22. deforest, 23. uneasy, 24. philanthropic

ANSWERS: