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## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Leonard Susskind: My friend Richard Feynman | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/leonard\\_susskind\\_my\\_friend\\_richard\\_feynman](https://www.ted.com/talks/leonard_susskind_my_friend_richard_feynman)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### brash

*adj.* self-assertive in a rude, noisy, or overbearing way; impetuous; lacking in consideration for consequences or the opinions or feelings of others

*synonym*: reckless, impulsive, daring

(1) **brash** behavior, (2) **brash** confidence

The **brash** young CEO made a lot of enemies with his bold decisions.

### irreverent

*adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

*synonym*: disrespectful, impious, sacrilegious

(1) **irreverent** comment, (2) **irreverent** attitude

The comedian's **irreverent** jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.

### macho

*adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive

*synonym*: masculine, aggressive, virile

(1) **macho** culture, (2) maintain a **macho** image

His **macho** posturing was just a cover for his insecurities and

lack of confidence.

## one-upmanship

*n.* the practice of gaining an advantage or showing superiority over others, often through competitive or aggressive behavior

*synonym*: one-upping, superiority complex

(1) office **one-upmanship**, (2) social **one-upmanship**

The business partners engaged in **one-upmanship**, each trying to make a bigger profit than the other.

## intellect

*n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

*synonym*: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

## gargantuan

*adj.* of immense size, volume, or magnitude; gigantic

*synonym*: enormous, colossal, mammoth

(1) **gargantuan** size, (2) **gargantuan** appetite

The construction of the **gargantuan** skyscraper was an engineering marvel.

## pretense

*n.* an act or instance of pretending or feigning; a false or insincere show or claim

*synonym*: act, facade, show

(1) **pretense** of innocence, (2) maintain a **pretense**

He put on a **pretense** of enjoying the party even though he was feeling miserable.

## phony

*adj.* not genuine; counterfeit; insincere; pretentious

*synonym*: fake, fraudulent, counterfeit

(1) **phony** excuse, (2) **phony** smile

He's a **phony** salesman who promises things he can't deliver.

## sophistication

*n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined

*synonym* : refinement, culture, elegance

(1) cultural **sophistication**, (2) linguistic **sophistication**

The new technology added a level of **sophistication** to the manufacturing process.

## jargon

*n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify

*synonym* : lingo, vernacular, slang

(1) business **jargon**, (2) scientific **jargon**

The financial industry is notorious for using complicated **jargon** that confuses consumers.

## philosophize

*v.* to engage in the activity of philosophy (= the study of general and fundamental questions); to reason about abstract concepts such as existence, knowledge, values, reason, mind, and language

*synonym* : theorize, meditate, speculate

(1) **philosophize** about arts, (2) **philosophize** about death

He likes to **philosophize** about the meaning of life during the evening.

## instruct

*v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something

*synonym* : train, coach, guide

(1) **instruct** a student, (2) **instruct** a computer

The facility manager **instructed** the security guards to be on high alert.

## shove

*v.* to push someone or something in a rough way

*synonym* : push, jab, elbow

(1) **shove** a person aside, (2) **shove** hamburger into my

mouth

He forcibly **shoved** the flyer into my bag.

## rapport

*n.* a close and harmonious relationship in which the people or groups concerned understand each other's feelings or ideas and communicate well

*synonym*: harmony, understanding, connection

(1) **rapport-building**, (2) be in **rapport** with him

The team leader worked hard to build a strong **rapport** with all team members.

## hypotenuse

*n.* in a right-angled triangle, the longest side, opposite the right angle, which is calculated using the Pythagorean theorem and the lengths of the other two sides

*synonym*: oblique, diagonal, slant

(1) right-angled **hypotenuse**, (2) calculate the **hypotenuse**

To find the **hypotenuse** length, you can use the Pythagorean theorem.

## physicist

*n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

## excite

*v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

*synonym*: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

## fancier

*n.* a person who is interested in or particularly fond of a particular thing

*synonym*: enthusiast, aficionado, connoisseur

(1) a bird **fancier**, (2) known as a **fancier** of arts

He is a wine **fancier** and can tell the difference between red and white just by smelling it.

## helium

*n.* a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table

*synonym* : He, light gas, noble gas

(1) **helium** atom, (2) **helium** gas

The **helium-filled** balloons floated into the sky.

## 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.

## repel

*v.* to force an attack or attacker to withdraw or retreat

*synonym* : turn away, fight off, force back

(1) **repel** bandits, (2) **repel** bad luck

This material can **repel** moisture swiftly.

## wiggle

*v.* to move or cause to move up and down or from side to side in short and quick movements

*synonym* : wiggle, jiggle, squirm

(1) **wiggle** her lips, (2) **wiggle** with excitement

Her hips **wiggle** as she walks.

## embarrass

*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

*synonym* : disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project

He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

## incidentally

*adv.* by the way; as an aside or in passing

*synonym* : by chance, by accident, inadvertently

(1) **incidentally** discovered, (2) **incidentally** mentioned

**Incidentally**, I know the answer to that question.

## proton

*n.* a very small particle with a positive charge equal to the negative charge of an electron that forms part of the nucleus of all atoms

(1) **proton** decay, (2) **proton** conductivity

The solar wind is composed almost entirely of electrons and **protons**.

## assemblage

*n.* a collection or gathering of things or persons; a group or ensemble of items that have been brought together in a particular way

*synonym* : gathering, collection, meeting

(1) sculptural **assemblage**, (2) an **assemblage** of tools

The **assemblage** of artists displayed their works in the gallery for all to see.

## swarm

*n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

*synonym* : horde, hive, throng

(1) a **swarm** of mosquitoes, (2) locust **swarm**

A **swarm** of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.

## parton

*n.* a hypothetical object or entity used in theoretical physics to represent the constituents of subatomic particles, such as protons and neutrons

*synonym* : constituent, particle, quark

(1) elementary particle **parton**, (2) high-energy **parton**

The **parton** model introduced by Richard Feynman was a precursor to our modern understanding of quark dynamics inside the nucleon.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. in\_\_\_\_ct a student *v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
2. inc\_\_\_\_\_lly mentioned *adv.* by the way; as an aside or in passing
3. linguistic sop\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
4. talented ph\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
5. sculptural ass\_\_\_\_\_ge *n.* a collection or gathering of things or persons; a group or ensemble of items that have been brought together in a particular way
6. theoretical ph\_\_\_\_\_st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
7. cultural sop\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
8. elementary particle pa\_\_\_\_n *n.* a hypothetical object or entity used in theoretical physics to represent the constituents of subatomic particles, such as protons and neutrons
9. br\_\_h confidence *adj.* self-assertive in a rude, noisy, or overbearing way; impetuous; lacking in consideration for consequences or the opinions or feelings of others

ANSWERS: 1. instruct, 2. incidentally, 3. sophistication, 4. physicist, 5. assemblage, 6. physicist, 7. sophistication, 8. parton, 9. brash

10. locust sw\_\_m *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
11. maintain a ma\_\_o image *adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive
12. wi\_\_\_e her lips *v.* to move or cause to move up and down or from side to side in short and quick movements
13. pr\_\_\_n conductivity *n.* a very small particle with a positive charge equal to the negative charge of an electron that forms part of the nucleus of all atoms
14. sh\_\_e hamburger into my mouth *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
15. enrich my in\_\_\_\_\_ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
16. ma\_\_o culture *adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive
17. em\_\_\_\_\_ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
18. wi\_\_\_e with excitement *v.* to move or cause to move up and down or from side to side in short and quick movements
19. vi\_\_\_\_\_ze flying through space *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

ANSWERS: 10. swarm, 11. macho, 12. wiggle, 13. proton, 14. shove, 15. intellect, 16. macho, 17. embarrass, 18. wiggle, 19. visualize



20. scientific ja\_\_\_n                      *n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify
21. vi\_\_\_\_\_ze data                      *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
22. irr\_\_\_\_\_nt attitude                      *adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
23. high-energy pa\_\_\_n                      *n.* a hypothetical object or entity used in theoretical physics to represent the constituents of subatomic particles, such as protons and neutrons
24. ph\_\_y excuse                      *adj.* not genuine; counterfeit; insincere; pretentious
25. in\_\_\_\_\_ct a computer                      *v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
26. be in ra\_\_\_\_\_t with him                      *n.* a close and harmonious relationship in which the people or groups concerned understand each other's feelings or ideas and communicate well
27. irr\_\_\_\_\_nt comment                      *adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition

ANSWERS: 20. jargon, 21. visualize, 22. irreverent, 23. parton, 24. phony, 25. instruct, 26. rapport, 27. irreverent

28. ex\_\_\_e the crowd      *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
29. social one\_\_\_\_\_hip      *n.* the practice of gaining an advantage or showing superiority over others, often through competitive or aggressive behavior
30. phi\_\_\_\_\_ize about arts      *v.* to engage in the activity of philosophy (= the study of general and fundamental questions); to reason about abstract concepts such as existence, knowledge, values, reason, mind, and language
31. inc\_\_\_\_\_lly discovered      *adv.* by the way; as an aside or in passing
32. human in\_\_\_\_\_ct      *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
33. business ja\_\_\_n      *n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify
34. ex\_\_\_e rebellion      *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
35. maintain a pr\_\_\_\_\_se      *n.* an act or instance of pretending or feigning; a false or insincere show or claim
36. re\_\_l bandits      *v.* to force an attack or attacker to withdraw or retreat

ANSWERS: 28. excite, 29. one-upmanship, 30. philosophize, 31. incidentally, 32. intellect, 33. jargon, 34. excite, 35. pretense, 36. repel

37. phi\_\_\_\_\_ize about death      *v.* to engage in the activity of philosophy (= the study of general and fundamental questions); to reason about abstract concepts such as existence, knowledge, values, reason, mind, and language
38. he\_\_\_m gas      *n.* a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
39. ph\_\_y smile      *adj.* not genuine; counterfeit; insincere; pretentious
40. a bird fa\_\_\_\_r      *n.* a person who is interested in or particularly fond of a particular thing
41. gar\_\_\_\_\_an appetite      *adj.* of immense size, volume, or magnitude; gigantic
42. calculate the hyp\_\_\_\_\_se      *n.* in a right-angled triangle, the longest side, opposite the right angle, which is calculated using the Pythagorean theorem and the lengths of the other two sides
43. br\_\_h behavior      *adj.* self-assertive in a rude, noisy, or overbearing way; impetuous; lacking in consideration for consequences or the opinions or feelings of others
44. he\_\_\_m atom      *n.* a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
45. sh\_\_e a person aside      *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way

ANSWERS: 37. philosophize, 38. helium, 39. phony, 40. fancier, 41. gargantuan, 42. hypotenuse, 43. brash, 44. helium, 45. shove

46. re\_\_l bad luck *v.* to force an attack or attacker to withdraw or retreat
47. a sw\_\_m of mosquitoes *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
48. gar\_\_\_\_\_an size *adj.* of immense size, volume, or magnitude; gigantic
49. known as a fa\_\_\_\_\_r of arts *n.* a person who is interested in or particularly fond of a particular thing
50. office one\_\_\_\_\_hip *n.* the practice of gaining an advantage or showing superiority over others, often through competitive or aggressive behavior
51. pr\_\_\_\_\_se of innocence *n.* an act or instance of pretending or feigning; a false or insincere show or claim
52. em\_\_\_\_\_ss my project *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
53. ra\_\_\_\_\_t-building *n.* a close and harmonious relationship in which the people or groups concerned understand each other's feelings or ideas and communicate well
54. pr\_\_\_n decay *n.* a very small particle with a positive charge equal to the negative charge of an electron that forms part of the nucleus of all atoms
55. an ass\_\_\_\_\_ge of tools *n.* a collection or gathering of things or persons; a group or ensemble of items that have been brought together in a particular way

ANSWERS: 46. repel, 47. swarm, 48. gargantuan, 49. fancier, 50. one-upmanship, 51. pretense, 52. embarrass, 53. rapport, 54. proton, 55. assemblage

56. right-angled hyp\_\_\_\_\_se

*n.* in a right-angled triangle, the longest side, opposite the right angle, which is calculated using the Pythagorean theorem and the lengths of the other two sides

ANSWERS: 56. hypotenuse

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The business partners engaged in \_\_\_\_\_ each trying to make a bigger profit than the other.
  - n.* the practice of gaining an advantage or showing superiority over others, often through competitive or aggressive behavior
  
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ young CEO made a lot of enemies with his bold decisions.
  - adj.* self-assertive in a rude, noisy, or overbearing way; impetuous; lacking in consideration for consequences or the opinions or feelings of others
  
3. He likes to \_\_\_\_\_ about the meaning of life during the evening.
  - v.* to engage in the activity of philosophy (= the study of general and fundamental questions); to reason about abstract concepts such as existence, knowledge, values, reason, mind, and language
  
4. The team leader worked hard to build a strong \_\_\_\_\_ with all team members.
  - n.* a close and harmonious relationship in which the people or groups concerned understand each other's feelings or ideas and communicate well
  
5. Einstein was an outstanding and famous \_\_\_\_\_ of the 20th century.
  - n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
  
6. 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
  
7. A \_\_\_\_\_ of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.
  - n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

ANSWERS: 1. one-upmanship, 2. brash, 3. philosophize, 4. rapport, 5. physicist, 6. visualize, 7. swarm

8. The news of her promotion \_\_\_\_\_ her.  
*v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
9. His \_\_\_\_\_ posturing was just a cover for his insecurities and lack of confidence.  
*adj.* characterized by a strong sense of masculinity or male dominance, often in a way that is perceived as arrogant or aggressive
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ balloons floated into the sky.  
*n.* a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
11. \_\_\_\_\_ I know the answer to that question.  
*adv.* by the way; as an aside or in passing
12. He is a wine \_\_\_\_\_ and can tell the difference between red and white just by smelling it.  
*n.* a person who is interested in or particularly fond of a particular thing
13. Her hips \_\_\_\_\_ as she walks.  
*v.* to move or cause to move up and down or from side to side in short and quick movements
14. The new technology added a level of \_\_\_\_\_ to the manufacturing process.  
*n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
15. He looked for an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ that actor in public.  
*v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

ANSWERS: 8. excited, 9. macho, 10. helium-filled, 11. Incidentally, 12. fancier, 13. wiggle, 14. sophistication, 15. embarrass

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ model introduced by Richard Feynman was a precursor to our modern understanding of quark dynamics inside the nucleon.
- n.* a hypothetical object or entity used in theoretical physics to represent the constituents of subatomic particles, such as protons and neutrons
17. This material can \_\_\_\_\_ moisture swiftly.
- v.* to force an attack or attacker to withdraw or retreat
18. To find the \_\_\_\_\_ length, you can use the Pythagorean theorem.
- n.* in a right-angled triangle, the longest side, opposite the right angle, which is calculated using the Pythagorean theorem and the lengths of the other two sides
19. The facility manager \_\_\_\_\_ the security guards to be on high alert.
- v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
20. He's a \_\_\_\_\_ salesman who promises things he can't deliver.
- adj.* not genuine; counterfeit; insincere; pretentious
21. The construction of the \_\_\_\_\_ skyscraper was an engineering marvel.
- adj.* of immense size, volume, or magnitude; gigantic
22. He forcibly \_\_\_\_\_ the flyer into my bag.
- v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
23. The \_\_\_\_\_ of artists displayed their works in the gallery for all to see.
- n.* a collection or gathering of things or persons; a group or ensemble of items that have been brought together in a particular way

ANSWERS: 16. parton, 17. repel, 18. hypotenuse, 19. instructed, 20. phony, 21. gargantuan, 22. shoved, 23. assemblage



24. The financial industry is notorious for using complicated \_\_\_\_\_ that confuses consumers.
- n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify
25. The solar wind is composed almost entirely of electrons and \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a very small particle with a positive charge equal to the negative charge of an electron that forms part of the nucleus of all atoms
26. The comedian's \_\_\_\_\_ jokes about religion offended some members of the audience.
- adj.* lacking proper respect or seriousness, often in a lighthearted or humorous manner; not showing reverence or deference to established authority or tradition
27. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
- n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
28. He put on a \_\_\_\_\_ of enjoying the party even though he was feeling miserable.
- n.* an act or instance of pretending or feigning; a false or insincere show or claim

ANSWERS: 24. jargon, 25. protons, 26. irreverent, 27. intellect, 28. pretense