

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Leslie Dodson: Don't misrepresent Africa | TED Talk
https://www.ted.com/talks/leslie_dodson_don_t_misrepresent_africa

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

footprint

n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

synonym: footmark, imprint, impression

(1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon **footprint**.

benign

adj. kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious

synonym: kind, gentle, harmless

(1) **benign** tumor, (2) a **benign** smile

The lump was discovered to be **benign**, and no further treatment was needed.

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.

portray

v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

synonym: depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

oversea

adj. situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries

synonym : foreign, abroad, international

(1) **oversea** shipments, (2) for **oversea** use

The company enhanced **oversea** operations to tap into new markets.

displace

v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

synonym : evict, exile, remove

(1) **displace** workers, (2) **displace** the explosive power

The construction of the new dam will **displace** hundreds of families living downstream.

laborer

n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks

synonym : worker, employee, operative

(1) **laborer** job, (2) skilled **laborer**

The construction site hired many **laborers** to help with the heavy lifting.

layoff

n. the temporary or permanent dismissal of employees from a company or organization due to a lack of work or financial difficulties; involuntary termination of employment

synonym : dismissal, redundancy, termination

(1) temporary **layoff**, (2) mass **layoff**

The workers protested against the unfairness of the **layoff**, claiming they should have been consulted first.

embed

v. to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass

synonym : entrench, fix, set

(1) **embed** scripts in the message, (2) **embed** a sensor

The company **embedded** a tracking code in the product's packaging to monitor its shipment.

contradictory

adj. containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements

synonym: conflicting, opposing, inconsistent

(1) apparently **contradictory**, (2) **contradictory** evidence

His statements were **contradictory**, leaving the audience confused.

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

synonym: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

decidedly

adv. in a manner that is beyond doubt or question; in a way that is clear and unmistakable; in an emphatic or determined manner

synonym: definitely, absolutely, positively

(1) **decidedly** unfriendly, (2) **decidedly** different

She was **decidedly** unimpressed with his latest attempt at a joke.

checkbook

n. a book containing blank checks that can be used to withdraw money from a bank or to make payments by mail

synonym: check register, bank ledger, account book

(1) update your **checkbook**, (2) keep a **checkbook**

I need to balance my **checkbook** to ensure I spend my money wisely.

discotheque

n. a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance

synonym: nightclub, dance club, disco

(1) **discotheque** party, (2) **discotheque** scene

He couldn't wait to hit the **discotheque** and dance the night away.

wart

n. a small, hard, benign growth on the skin caused by a viral infection and typically found on the hands or feet; a defect or drawback in something or someone

synonym: pimple, growth, tumor

(1) filiform **wart**, (2) **wart** on my hand

The doctor recommended a surgical procedure to remove the genital **wart** and prevent further complications.

odious

adj. arousing intense dislike or disgust

synonym: loathsome, repugnant, revolting

(1) **odious** task, (2) **odious** character

The **odious** smell of rotting garbage filled the alley.

narrator

n. a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film

synonym: teller, storyteller

(1) first-person **narrator**, (2) the **narrator** of the TV program

The **narrator** makes use of the local dialect.

nourishing

adj. providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth

synonym: nutritious, healthy, sustaining

(1) **nourishing** broth, (2) **nourishing** ingredients

My mother always made sure she had a **nourishing** breakfast before school.

sally

n. a sudden, impulsive outing or excursion; a witty or clever remark

synonym: sortie, charge, wisecrack

(1) **sally** of wit, (2) **sally** port

The protesters made a sudden **sally** into the town square, surprising everyone.

famine

n. a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons

synonym: hunger, starvation, drought

(1) **famine** relief, (2) coal **famine**

The severe **famine** caused by the drought has left many people without food.

perpetrator

n. a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception

synonym: culprit, wrongdoer, offender

(1) **perpetrator** identity, (2) culprit **perpetrator**

The police have not yet caught the **perpetrator** of the crime.

inconvenient

adj. causing trouble or difficulty; not convenient or suitable

synonym: troublesome, difficult, awkward

(1) face an **inconvenient** truth, (2) **inconvenient** for shopping

It was **inconvenient** for her to go out of her way to pick up the package.

inadvertently

adv. unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent

synonym: unknowingly, unintentionally, accidentally

(1) **inadvertently** deleted, (2) **inadvertently** omitted

I **inadvertently** left my phone at home this morning and felt lost.

filmmaker

n. a person who makes films, typically as a profession

synonym: director, producer, cinematographer

(1) non-fiction **filmmaker**, (2) a successful **filmmaker**

The renowned **filmmaker** won several awards for his latest film.

vaporize

v. to convert a substance into vapor or gas, often by heating or applying intense pressure; to disappear or become dispersed as if by evaporating; to destroy or eliminate completely

synonym: evaporate, disappear, vanish

(1) **vaporize** nicotine, (2) **vaporize** into thin air

The heat caused the water to **vaporize** into steam.

monolithic

adj. characterized by massiveness, rigidity, and uniformity

synonym: massive, monumental, hulking

(1) **monolithic** block, (2) **monolithic** system

Big technology companies try to integrate customers' data into **monolithic** applications.

destitute

adj. lacking basic material necessities such as food, shelter, and clothing; impoverished

synonym: poor, impoverished, needy

(1) **destitute** refugees, (2) living in **destitute** conditions

The hurricane left many families **destitute** and without homes.

insurrection

n. an organized uprising or rebellion against an established government or authority

synonym: revolt, uprising, rebellion

(1) civil **insurrection**, (2) raise an **insurrection**

The government quickly suppressed the **insurrection** led by the rebel group.

ethic

n. a set of moral or philosophical principles or values that guide the behavior or actions of an individual, group, or society; the study or inquiry into the nature of morality and moral systems

synonym: moral code, code of conduct, principles

(1) moral **ethic**, (2) professional **ethic**

Having a strong work **ethic** is important for success in any field.

pander

v. to provide gratification or cater to someone's desires, often in an unprincipled or unscrupulous manner; to encourage or indulge in immoral or unacceptable behavior

synonym : cater, satisfy, indulge

(1) **pander** to his desires, (2) **pander** to the audience

Many pop artists are criticized for producing music that seems to **pander** to the masses instead of showcasing their true artistic talent.

stereotype

n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

(1) avoid **stereotype**, (2) negative **stereotypes**

Changing **stereotypes** about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.

complacent

adj. satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes

synonym : content, satisfied, self-satisfied

(1) **complacent** attitude, (2) **complacent** with past successes

He became **complacent** in his job and stopped trying to improve.

complicit

adj. involved in or responsible for a wrongful or unethical act, often through inaction or silence; in cooperation with another person or group

synonym : compliant, involved, accessory

(1) **complicit** behavior, (2) **complicit** in cover-up

The accomplice was **complicit** in the crime committed by her partner.

Session 2: Spelling

1. temporary la___f *n.* the temporary or permanent dismissal of employees from a company or organization due to a lack of work or financial difficulties; involuntary termination of employment

2. va_____ze into thin air *v.* to convert a substance into vapor or gas, often by heating or applying intense pressure; to disappear or become dispersed as if by evaporating; to destroy or eliminate completely

3. od___s character *adj.* arousing intense dislike or disgust

4. sa__y of wit *n.* a sudden, impulsive outing or excursion; a witty or clever remark

5. ina_____tly deleted *adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent

6. mon_____ic system *adj.* characterized by massiveness, rigidity, and uniformity

7. a be___n smile *adj.* kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious

8. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

9. mass la___f *n.* the temporary or permanent dismissal of employees from a company or organization due to a lack of work or financial difficulties; involuntary termination of employment

ANSWERS: 1. layoff, 2. vaporize, 3. odious, 4. sally, 5. inadvertently, 6. monolithic, 7. benign, 8. industrious, 9. layoff

10. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
11. po_____y feelings in words *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
12. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
13. pa____r to his desires *v.* to provide gratification or cater to someone's desires, often in an unprincipled or unscrupulous manner; to encourage or indulge in immoral or unacceptable behavior
14. di_____ce the explosive power *v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
15. living in de_____te conditions *adj.* lacking basic material necessities such as food, shelter, and clothing; impoverished
16. em__d a sensor *v.* to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
17. avoid ste_____pe *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
18. the na_____or of the TV program *n.* a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film
19. va_____ze nicotine *v.* to convert a substance into vapor or gas, often by heating or applying intense pressure; to disappear or become dispersed as if by evaporating; to destroy or eliminate completely

ANSWERS: 10. industrious, 11. portray, 12. footprint, 13. pander, 14. displace, 15. destitute, 16. embed, 17. stereotype, 18. narrator, 19. vaporize

20. od___s task *adj.* arousing intense dislike or disgust
21. accurately po_____y the condition *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
22. la_____r job *n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
23. per_____or identity *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
24. sto_____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
25. filiform w__t *n.* a small, hard, benign growth on the skin caused by a viral infection and typically found on the hands or feet; a defect or drawback in something or someone
26. de_____ly unfriendly *adv.* in a manner that is beyond doubt or question; in a way that is clear and unmistakable; in an emphatic or determined manner
27. negative ste_____pes *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
28. update your ch_____ok *n.* a book containing blank checks that can be used to withdraw money from a bank or to make payments by mail

ANSWERS: 20. odious, 21. portray, 22. laborer, 23. perpetrator, 24. storytelling, 25. wart, 26. decidedly, 27. stereotype, 28. checkbook

29. non-fiction fi_____er *n.* a person who makes films, typically as a profession
30. apparently con_____ory *adj.* containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
31. inc_____ent for shopping *adj.* causing trouble or difficulty; not convenient or suitable
32. di_____ce workers *v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
33. fa___e relief *n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
34. pa___r to the audience *v.* to provide gratification or cater to someone's desires, often in an unprincipled or unscrupulous manner; to encourage or indulge in immoral or unacceptable behavior
35. face an inc_____ent truth *adj.* causing trouble or difficulty; not convenient or suitable
36. con_____ory evidence *adj.* containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements
37. sa__y port *n.* a sudden, impulsive outing or excursion; a witty or clever remark
38. keep a ch_____ok *n.* a book containing blank checks that can be used to withdraw money from a bank or to make payments by mail
39. mon_____ic block *adj.* characterized by massiveness, rigidity, and uniformity
40. com_____nt attitude *adj.* satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes

ANSWERS: 29. filmmaker, 30. contradictory, 31. inconvenient, 32. displace, 33. famine, 34. pander, 35. inconvenient, 36. contradictory, 37. sally, 38. checkbook, 39. monolithic, 40. complacent

41. de_____ly different *adv.* in a manner that is beyond doubt or question; in a way that is clear and unmistakable; in an emphatic or determined manner
42. raise an ins_____ion *n.* an organized uprising or rebellion against an established government or authority
43. com_____nt with past successes *adj.* satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes
44. w__t on my hand *n.* a small, hard, benign growth on the skin caused by a viral infection and typically found on the hands or feet; a defect or drawback in something or someone
45. de_____te refugees *adj.* lacking basic material necessities such as food, shelter, and clothing; impoverished
46. be____n tumor *adj.* kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious
47. culprit per_____or *n.* a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception
48. dis_____ue party *n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
49. nou_____ng ingredients *adj.* providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth
50. ina_____tly omitted *adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent

ANSWERS: 41. decidedly, 42. insurrection, 43. complacent, 44. wart, 45. destitute, 46. benign, 47. perpetrator, 48. discotheque, 49. nourishing, 50. inadvertently

51. courtroom sto_____ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
52. civil ins_____ion *n.* an organized uprising or rebellion against an established government or authority
53. co_____it in cover-up *adj.* involved in or responsible for a wrongful or unethical act, often through inaction or silence; in cooperation with another person or group
54. em__d scripts in the message *v.* to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
55. a successful fi_____er *n.* a person who makes films, typically as a profession
56. fo_____nts in the snow *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
57. coal fa___e *n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
58. skilled la_____r *n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
59. first-person na_____or *n.* a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film
60. nou_____ng broth *adj.* providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth
61. co_____it behavior *adj.* involved in or responsible for a wrongful or unethical act, often through inaction or silence; in cooperation with another person or group

ANSWERS: 51. storytelling, 52. insurrection, 53. complicit, 54. embed, 55. filmmaker, 56. footprint, 57. famine, 58. laborer, 59. narrator, 60. nourishing, 61. complicit

62. for ov____a use *adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
63. professional et__c *n.* a set of moral or philosophical principles or values that guide the behavior or actions of an individual, group, or society; the study or inquiry into the nature of morality and moral systems
64. moral et__c *n.* a set of moral or philosophical principles or values that guide the behavior or actions of an individual, group, or society; the study or inquiry into the nature of morality and moral systems
65. dis____ue scene *n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
66. ov____a shipments *adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries

ANSWERS: 62. oversea, 63. ethic, 64. ethic, 65. discotheque, 66. oversea

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The heat caused the water to _____ into steam.
v. to convert a substance into vapor or gas, often by heating or applying intense pressure; to disappear or become dispersed as if by evaporating; to destroy or eliminate completely
2. The lump was discovered to be _____ and no further treatment was needed.
adj. kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious
3. It was _____ for her to go out of her way to pick up the package.
adj. causing trouble or difficulty; not convenient or suitable
4. The doctor recommended a surgical procedure to remove the genital _____ and prevent further complications.
n. a small, hard, benign growth on the skin caused by a viral infection and typically found on the hands or feet; a defect or drawback in something or someone
5. I _____ left my phone at home this morning and felt lost.
adv. unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
6. The _____ makes use of the local dialect.
n. a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film
7. The construction of the new dam will _____ hundreds of families living downstream.
v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

ANSWERS: 1. vaporize, 2. benign, 3. inconvenient, 4. wart, 5. inadvertently, 6. narrator, 7. displace

8. Changing _____ about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.
n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
9. She was _____ unimpressed with his latest attempt at a joke.
adv. in a manner that is beyond doubt or question; in a way that is clear and unmistakable; in an emphatic or determined manner
10. The company enhanced _____ operations to tap into new markets.
adj. situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
11. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
12. Big technology companies try to integrate customers' data into _____ applications.
adj. characterized by massiveness, rigidity, and uniformity
13. Having a strong work _____ is important for success in any field.
n. a set of moral or philosophical principles or values that guide the behavior or actions of an individual, group, or society; the study or inquiry into the nature of morality and moral systems
14. The construction site hired many _____ to help with the heavy lifting.
n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
15. The police have not yet caught the _____ of the crime.
n. a person who carries out a harmful or illegal act, particularly one that involves violence or deception

ANSWERS: 8. stereotypes, 9. decidedly, 10. oversea, 11. industrious, 12. monolithic, 13. ethic, 14. laborers, 15. perpetrator

16. The hurricane left many families _____ and without homes.
adj. lacking basic material necessities such as food, shelter, and clothing; impoverished
17. My mother always made sure she had a _____ breakfast before school.
adj. providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth
18. The renowned _____ won several awards for his latest film.
n. a person who makes films, typically as a profession
19. The company _____ a tracking code in the product's packaging to monitor its shipment.
v. to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
20. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories
21. The severe _____ caused by the drought has left many people without food.
n. a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
22. The _____ smell of rotting garbage filled the alley.
adj. arousing intense dislike or disgust
23. The accomplice was _____ in the crime committed by her partner.
adj. involved in or responsible for a wrongful or unethical act, often through inaction or silence; in cooperation with another person or group
24. The workers protested against the unfairness of the _____ claiming they should have been consulted first.
n. the temporary or permanent dismissal of employees from a company or organization due to a lack of work or financial difficulties; involuntary termination of employment

ANSWERS: 16. destitute, 17. nourishing, 18. filmmaker, 19. embedded, 20. storytelling, 21. famine, 22. odious, 23. complicit, 24. layoff,

25. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon _____.
- n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
26. He couldn't wait to hit the _____ and dance the night away.
- n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
27. The government quickly suppressed the _____ led by the rebel group.
- n.* an organized uprising or rebellion against an established government or authority
28. I need to balance my _____ to ensure I spend my money wisely.
- n.* a book containing blank checks that can be used to withdraw money from a bank or to make payments by mail
29. He became _____ in his job and stopped trying to improve.
- adj.* satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes
30. The protesters made a sudden _____ into the town square, surprising everyone.
- n.* a sudden, impulsive outing or excursion; a witty or clever remark
31. Many pop artists are criticized for producing music that seems to _____ to the masses instead of showcasing their true artistic talent.
- v.* to provide gratification or cater to someone's desires, often in an unprincipled or unscrupulous manner; to encourage or indulge in immoral or unacceptable behavior
32. We often _____ political problems as religious issues.
- v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

ANSWERS: 25. footprint, 26. discotheque, 27. insurrection, 28. checkbook, 29. complacent, 30. sally, 31. pander, 32. portray

33. His statements were _____ leaving the audience confused.

adj. containing or consisting of conflicting or incompatible elements

ANSWERS: 33. contradictory,