

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Margaret Heffernan: Dare to disagree | TED Talk

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

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

correlate

v. to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another

synonym : associate, liken, connect

(1) **correlate** closely with the quality, (2) **correlate** to the size

We may frequently **correlate** age with the frequency of disease.

affluent

adj. rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth

synonym : wealthy, rich, prosperous

(1) **affluent** society, (2) live in **affluent** circumstances

She lived in an **affluent** neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.

anomaly

n. something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand

synonym : abnormality, irregularity, deviation

(1) **anomaly** detection, (2) global temperature **anomaly**

The sudden drop in the stock market was an **anomaly** that puzzled many investors.

haystack

n. a large mound of hay, usually stacked in a conical or cylindrical shape, used for animal feed or bedding

synonym: pile, heap, stack

(1) **haystack** fire, (2) lost in a **haystack**

The children played hide and seek in the **haystacks** in the barnyard.

outdo

v. to do better than someone; to surpass

synonym: excel, surpass, outshine

(1) **outdo** him in trickery, (2) **outdo** the competition

He tried to **outdo** his rival by breaking the world record.

lancet

n. a sharp, pointed surgical instrument used for making incisions or punctures, typically in medical procedures

synonym: scalpel, blade, surgical instrument

(1) **lancet** device, (2) surgical **lancet**

The doctor used a **lancet** for a small incision on the patient's skin.

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.

statistician

n. a person who studies or is an expert in statistics

synonym: actuary

(1) professional **statisticians**, (2) environmental **statistician**

The firm employs several **statisticians** to develop a recommendation engine.

sociable

adj. being friendly, outgoing, and inclined to engage in social activities or interactions; enjoying the company of others

synonym: friendly, outgoing, affable

(1) **sociable** gathering, (2) **sociable** atmosphere

She is a very **sociable** person who loves meeting new

people.

recluse

n. a person who lives in solitude and isolation
synonym: hermit, solitary, loner

(1) live as a **recluse**, (2) solitary **recluse**

After years in the limelight, the actor decided to retreat from the public eye and become a **recluse**.

empathy

n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
synonym: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

Empathy is also necessary to understand history.

crunch

n. a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
synonym: crushing, snapping, crisis

(1) financial **crunch**, (2) a gas **crunch**

The **crunch** of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.

disprove

v. to show that something is not true or correct
synonym: refute, discredit, invalidate

(1) **disprove** global warming, (2) **disprove** the conjecture

The researchers were unable to **disprove** the theory.

neurobiology

n. a field of biology that studies the structure, function, and development of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves encompassing a wide range of research topics, including the molecular and cellular processes involved in neural signaling, the organization of neural circuits, and the neural basis of behavior, cognition, and emotion

synonym: brain science, neural science, neurology

(1) **neurobiology** research, (2) cellular **neurobiology**

The professor's research in **neurobiology** has led to groundbreaking discoveries in the field of brain science.

provoke

v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect

synonym : stimulate, incite, encourage

(1) **provoke** a disease, (2) **provoke** a reaction

Her behavior **provoked** a quarrel between the couple.

embroil

v. to involve or entangle someone or something in a difficult, complicated, or unpleasant situation; to implicate or incriminate

synonym : involve, complicate, entangle

(1) **embroil** him in a controversy, (2) **embroil** in controversy

The scandal **embroiled** the company's CEO and other high-level executives.

aft

adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

(1) **aft** cabin, (2) **aft** view

The **aft** section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

whistleblower

n. a person who reveals or reports illegal, unethical, or immoral activities, primarily in the workplace or government, that are not publicly known but harm the public interest or other people

synonym : informant, snitch

(1) anonymous **whistleblower**, (2) government

whistleblower

The government has laws in place to protect **whistleblowers** from retaliation.

crank

n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person

synonym : eccentric, oddball, kook

(1) **crank** handle, (2) **crank** caller

The fishing reel had a **crank** that made it easy to reel in the catch.

devote

v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

synonym: commit, dedicate, apply

(1) **devote** all of my energies, (2) **devote** my own life

He **devoted** himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.

catastrophe

n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

synonym: disaster, calamity, cataclysm

(1) **catastrophe** risk management, (2) avoid climate **catastrophe**

The lack of funds has resulted in a **catastrophe** for our university system.

Session 2: Spelling

1. so____le gathering *adj.* being friendly, outgoing, and inclined to engage in social activities or interactions; enjoying the company of others
2. cellular neu______ogy *n.* a field of biology that studies the structure, function, and development of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves encompassing a wide range of research topics, including the molecular and cellular processes involved in neural signaling, the organization of neural circuits, and the neural basis of behavior, cognition, and emotion
3. financial cr____h *n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
4. government whi______wer *n.* a person who reveals or reports illegal, unethical, or immoral activities, primarily in the workplace or government, that are not publicly known but harm the public interest or other people
5. la____t device *n.* a sharp, pointed surgical instrument used for making incisions or punctures, typically in medical procedures
6. full of em____y *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

ANSWERS: 1. sociable, 2. neurobiology, 3. crunch, 4. whistleblower, 5. lancet, 6. empathy

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 7. avoid climate cat_____he | <i>n.</i> a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune |
| 8. an_____y detection | <i>n.</i> something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand |
| 9. de____e my own life | <i>v.</i> to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose |
| 10. em_____y for patients | <i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation |
| 11. live as a re_____e | <i>n.</i> a person who lives in solitude and isolation |
| 12. de____e all of my energies | <i>v.</i> to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose |
| 13. live in af_____nt circumstances | <i>adj.</i> rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth |
| 14. professional sta_____ians | <i>n.</i> a person who studies or is an expert in statistics |
| 15. lost in a ha_____ck | <i>n.</i> a large mound of hay, usually stacked in a conical or cylindrical shape, used for animal feed or bedding |
| 16. di_____ve the conjecture | <i>v.</i> to show that something is not true or correct |
| 17. environmental sta_____ian | <i>n.</i> a person who studies or is an expert in statistics |
| 18. ou__o him in trickery | <i>v.</i> to do better than someone; to surpass |

ANSWERS: 7. catastrophe, 8. anomaly, 9. devote, 10. empathy, 11. recluse, 12. devote, 13. affluent, 14. statistician, 15. haystack, 16. disprove, 17. statistician, 18. outdo

27. di____ve global warming *v.* to show that something is not true or correct
28. ha____ck fire *n.* a large mound of hay, usually stacked in a conical or cylindrical shape, used for animal feed or bedding
29. a gas cr____h *n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
30. solitary re____e *n.* a person who lives in solitude and isolation
31. co____te to the size *v.* to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another
32. em____l in controversy *v.* to involve or entangle someone or something in a difficult, complicated, or unpleasant situation; to implicate or incriminate
33. pr____e a disease *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
34. af____nt society *adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
35. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
36. anonymous whi____wer *n.* a person who reveals or reports illegal, unethical, or immoral activities, primarily in the workplace or government, that are not publicly known but harm the public interest or other people

ANSWERS: 27. disprove, 28. haystack, 29. crunch, 30. recluse, 31. correlate, 32. embroil, 33. provoke, 34. affluent, 35. aft, 36. whistleblower

37. so____le atmosphere *adj.* being friendly, outgoing, and inclined to engage in social activities or interactions; enjoying the company of others
38. a_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
39. ex____e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
40. pr____e a reaction *v.* to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
41. surgical la____t *n.* a sharp, pointed surgical instrument used for making incisions or punctures, typically in medical procedures
42. cat_____he risk management *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

ANSWERS: 37. sociable, 38. aft, 39. excite, 40. provoke, 41. lancet, 42. catastrophe

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He tried to _____ his rival by breaking the world record.
v. to do better than someone; to surpass

2. He _____ himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.
v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

3. The sudden drop in the stock market was an _____ that puzzled many investors.
n. something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand

4. The professor's research in _____ has led to groundbreaking discoveries in the field of brain science.
n. a field of biology that studies the structure, function, and development of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves encompassing a wide range of research topics, including the molecular and cellular processes involved in neural signaling, the organization of neural circuits, and the neural basis of behavior, cognition, and emotion

5. The doctor used a _____ for a small incision on the patient's skin.
n. a sharp, pointed surgical instrument used for making incisions or punctures, typically in medical procedures

6. The ___ section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.
adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

ANSWERS: 1. outdo, 2. devoted, 3. anomaly, 4. neurobiology, 5. lancet, 6. aft

7. The children played hide and seek in the _____ in the barnyard.
n. a large mound of hay, usually stacked in a conical or cylindrical shape, used for animal feed or bedding
8. The researchers were unable to _____ the theory.
v. to show that something is not true or correct
9. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
10. The fishing reel had a _____ that made it easy to reel in the catch.
n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
11. The firm employs several _____ to develop a recommendation engine.
n. a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
12. Her behavior _____ a quarrel between the couple.
v. to stimulate or give rise to a particular reaction or have a particular effect
13. _____ is also necessary to understand history.
n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
14. We may frequently _____ age with the frequency of disease.
v. to have a connection or relationship in which one thing affects or depends on another
15. The scandal _____ the company's CEO and other high-level executives.
v. to involve or entangle someone or something in a difficult, complicated, or unpleasant situation; to implicate or incriminate

ANSWERS: 7. haystacks, 8. disprove, 9. excited, 10. crank, 11. statisticians, 12. provoked, 13. Empathy, 14. correlate, 15. embroiled

16. After years in the limelight, the actor decided to retreat from the public eye and become a _____.
- n.* a person who lives in solitude and isolation
17. She is a very _____ person who loves meeting new people.
- adj.* being friendly, outgoing, and inclined to engage in social activities or interactions; enjoying the company of others
18. The _____ of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.
- n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
19. She lived in an _____ neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.
- adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
20. The government has laws in place to protect _____ from retaliation.
- n.* a person who reveals or reports illegal, unethical, or immoral activities, primarily in the workplace or government, that are not publicly known but harm the public interest or other people
21. The lack of funds has resulted in a _____ for our university system.
- n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

ANSWERS: 16. recluse, 17. sociable, 18. crunch, 19. affluent, 20. whistleblowers, 21. catastrophe