



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

rationalism

n. a philosophical or theoretical approach that emphasizes the use of reason and logical thinking as the primary source of knowledge and basis for understanding the world, often rejecting or downplaying the role of intuition or faith

synonym: logic, reason, intellectualism

(1) economic **rationalism**, (2) religious **rationalism**

The university's philosophy department held a series of lectures discussing the influence of **rationalism** in contemporary thought.

vivisection

n. the practice or method of performing surgical procedures or experiments on live animals for scientific or medical research purposes

synonym: animal experimentation, dissection

(1) ethical **vivisection**, (2) medical **vivisection**

The **vivisection** controversy has led many institutions to reconsider their stance on animal testing.

typewriter

n. a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over

(1) **typewriter** keys, (2) electronic **typewriter**

I found an old **typewriter** at a thrift store and used it to write my novel.

loathe

v. to feel strong hatred or disgust for someone or something; to be unwilling or reluctant to do something

synonym: despise, hate, abominate

(1) **loathe** violence, (2) **loathe** broccoli

I absolutely **loathe** spiders and can't stand to be near them.

astrology

n. the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world

synonym: horoscope, star divination, celestial prediction

(1) **astrology** chart, (2) delve into **astrology**

He was fascinated by ancient **astrology** and spent hours studying horoscopes.

rationalist

adj. relating to or based on the belief in reason, logic, and critical thinking as the primary source of knowledge or justification; rejecting or skeptical of religious or mystical explanations; (noun) a person who believes or practices rationalism, a philosophical doctrine stating that knowledge and truth are primarily, or solely, derived from reason and logical thinking

synonym: rational, logical, reasoning

(1) **rationalist** philosophy, (2) evolutionary **rationalist**

The **rationalist** approach to solving the problem involves analyzing data rather than going by gut feelings.

banal

adj. lacking originality, creativity, or freshness; uninteresting or dull due to being overused or overly familiar

synonym: trite, mundane, dull

(1) **banal** conversation, (2) **banal** plot

The restaurant's menu had a **banal** selection of generic dishes with no unique or exciting options.

collide

v. to hit something violently when moving

synonym: clash, slam, contradict

(1) **collide** head-on, (2) **collide** in midair

The interests of the two countries **collide**.

astronomical

adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

synonym: huge, vast, enormous

(1) **astronomical** observation, (2) **astronomical** numbers

The cost of the new equipment was **astronomical** and beyond the company's budget.

engulf

v. to swallow up; to surround and cover completely

synonym: swallow, submerge, inundate

(1) **engulf** the politician, (2) **engulf** in water

The fire quickly **engulfed** the entire building.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym: frightening, intimidating, alarming

(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

permutation

n. the act or process of rearranging or reordering a set of elements or objects in a different sequence or configuration; a specific arrangement or order of a set of elements or objects

synonym: variation, transformation, alteration

(1) **permutation** formula, (2) **permutation** test

Scientists study the **permutations** of chemical elements and compounds to better understand their properties and potential uses.

reincarnation

n. the rebirth of a soul in a new body

synonym: rebirth, regeneration, metempsychosis

(1) **reincarnation** cycle, (2) **reincarnation** belief

Some religions believe in the **reincarnation** of souls after death.

afterlife

n. life after death, as believed in many cultures and religious traditions

synonym: eternal life, immortality, hereafter

(1) **afterlife** name, (2) corporate **afterlife**

The belief in an **afterlife** comforted those mourning the loss of their loved ones.

proviso

n. a condition or stipulation added to an agreement, contract, or law, usually specifying a particular requirement or limitation that must be met for the agreement to be valid or effective

synonym: condition, provision, stipulation

(1) legal **proviso**, (2) under the **proviso**

A **proviso** in the contract allowed for termination under certain circumstances.

pulsar

n. a highly magnetized, rotating neutron star that emits beams of electromagnetic radiation, which can be observed as regular pulses of light

synonym: neutron star, pulsating star, radio star

(1) **pulsar** magnetosphere, (2) gamma-ray **pulsar**

The astronomers detected a **pulsar** in the center of the galaxy.

occupant

n. a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there

synonym: denizen, dweller, resident

(1) illegal **occupant**, (2) rear seat **occupants**

He found graffiti left by a previous **occupant** of the house.

wasteful

adj. characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense

synonym: uneconomical, extravagant, profligate

(1) **wasteful** practices, (2) **wasteful** habits

Buying new clothes every week is a **wasteful** use of money and resources.

recyclability

n. the degree to which a material or product can be reused or repurposed after it has served its original function, without requiring significant modifications or environmental harm

synonym: reusability, sustainability, renewability

(1) **recyclability** rate, (2) low **recyclability** problem

The **recyclability** of electronic devices is a significant challenge due to the complexity of their components.

sac

n. a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant

synonym: bag, pouch, knapsack

(1) **sac** contents, (2) abdominal **sac**

I placed my valuables in the **sac** before heading out on my hike.

pheromone

n. a chemical substance produced by an animal that is secreted into the environment and that affects the behavior or physiology of others of its species

synonym: scent, odor, aroma

(1) **pheromone** trail, (2) sexual **pheromone**

The perfume industry often uses synthetic **pheromones** to enhance their products' appeal.

olfactory

adj. relating to the sense of smell; connected with the perception of odors or scents

synonym: olfactive, scent-based, aromatic

(1) **olfactory** cortex, (2) **olfactory** memory

The **olfactory** senses play a key role in our taste and flavor perception.

- spit** *v.* to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth
synonym: expectorate, saliva, spew
(1) **spit** a bullet, (2) **spit** a mouthful of saliva
She tried to **spit** out the gum that she had been chewing.
- predilection** *n.* a preference or inclination for something; a liking or fondness for something
synonym: inclination, leaning, preference
(1) **predilection** for chocolate, (2) a strong **predilection** for dogs
Her **predilection** for spicy food made her the go-to person for restaurant recommendations.
- unconditional** *adj.* not subject to any conditions; absolute or complete; not limited by any qualifications or restrictions
synonym: absolute, complete, unqualified
(1) **unconditional** forgiveness, (2) **unconditional** support
Her love for him was **unconditional**, despite all of his flaws.
- housework** *n.* the tasks involved in cleaning and maintaining a house
synonym: chores, cleaning, domestic duties
(1) **housework** robot, (2) light **housework**
She didn't mind doing the **housework** as long as it kept her busy and productive.
- anthropology** *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
(1) social **anthropology**, (2) **anthropology** of religion
The areas of **anthropology** and psychology are significantly related to one another.
- 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.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym: sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

laureate

n. a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work

(1) Oscar **laureate**, (2) poet **laureate**

The Nobel **laureate** delivered an inspiring speech to the graduating class.

comprehensible

adj. able to be understood or grasped by the mind; clear and understandable

synonym: understandable, intelligible, clear

(1) **comprehensible** language, (2) **comprehensible** to everyone

The textbook explanation made the difficult concept **comprehensible** to the students.

pointless

adj. having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless

synonym: meaningless, purposeless, worthless

(1) **pointless** argument, (2) **pointless** task

The meeting was considered **pointless** since nothing was accomplished.

nihilist

n. a person who rejects all religious, moral, and political beliefs and values; a person who believes life is meaningless and void of purpose

synonym : anarchist, cynic, skeptic

(1) violent **nihilist**, (2) militant **nihilist**

The professor accused the student of being a **nihilist** for constantly challenging the course material.

Session 2: Spelling

1. com_____ble to everyone *adj.* able to be understood or grasped by the mind; clear and understandable
2. lo___e broccoli *v.* to feel strong hatred or disgust for someone or something; to be unwilling or reluctant to do something
3. a strong pre_____ion for dogs *n.* a preference or inclination for something; a liking or fondness for something
4. religious rat_____sm *n.* a philosophical or theoretical approach that emphasizes the use of reason and logical thinking as the primary source of knowledge and basis for understanding the world, often rejecting or downplaying the role of intuition or faith
5. illegal oc_____nt *n.* a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there
6. s__t a bullet *v.* to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth
7. unc_____nal forgiveness *adj.* not subject to any conditions; absolute or complete; not limited by any qualifications or restrictions
8. rat_____st philosophy *adj.* relating to or based on the belief in reason, logic, and critical thinking as the primary source of knowledge or justification; rejecting or skeptical of religious or mystical explanations; (noun) a person who believes or practices rationalism, a philosophical doctrine stating that knowledge and truth are primarily, or solely, derived from reason and logical thinking

ANSWERS: 1. comprehensible, 2. loathe, 3. predilection, 4. rationalism, 5. occupant, 6. spit, 7. unconditional, 8. rationalist

9. wa____ul habits *adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense
10. medical viv_____on *n.* the practice or method of performing surgical procedures or experiments on live animals for scientific or medical research purposes
11. abdominal s_c *n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant
12. rear seat oc_____nts *n.* a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there
13. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
14. evolutionary rat_____st *adj.* relating to or based on the belief in reason, logic, and critical thinking as the primary source of knowledge or justification; rejecting or skeptical of religious or mystical explanations; (noun) a person who believes or practices rationalism, a philosophical doctrine stating that knowledge and truth are primarily, or solely, derived from reason and logical thinking
15. co_____e head-on *v.* to hit something violently when moving
16. unc_____nal support *adj.* not subject to any conditions; absolute or complete; not limited by any qualifications or restrictions

ANSWERS: 9. wasteful, 10. vivisection, 11. sac, 12. occupant, 13. terrifying, 14. rationalist, 15. collide, 16. unconditional

17. light ho_____rk *n.* the tasks involved in cleaning and maintaining a house
18. lo___e violence *v.* to feel strong hatred or disgust for someone or something; to be unwilling or reluctant to do something
19. violent ni_____st *n.* a person who rejects all religious, moral, and political beliefs and values; a person who believes life is meaningless and void of purpose
20. wa_____ul practices *adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense
21. militant ni_____st *n.* a person who rejects all religious, moral, and political beliefs and values; a person who believes life is meaningless and void of purpose
22. rec_____ity rate *n.* the degree to which a material or product can be reused or repurposed after it has served its original function, without requiring significant modifications or environmental harm
23. pu___r magnetosphere *n.* a highly magnetized, rotating neutron star that emits beams of electromagnetic radiation, which can be observed as regular pulses of light
24. ethical viv_____on *n.* the practice or method of performing surgical procedures or experiments on live animals for scientific or medical research purposes

ANSWERS: 17. housework, 18. loathe, 19. nihilist, 20. wasteful, 21. nihilist, 22. recyclability, 23. pulsar, 24. vivisection

25. ol_____ry cortex *adj.* relating to the sense of smell; connected with the perception of odors or scents
26. pre_____ion for chocolate *n.* a preference or inclination for something; a liking or fondness for something
27. ba__l conversation *adj.* lacking originality, creativity, or freshness; uninteresting or dull due to being overused or overly familiar
28. ba__l plot *adj.* lacking originality, creativity, or freshness; uninteresting or dull due to being overused or overly familiar
29. economic rat_____sm *n.* a philosophical or theoretical approach that emphasizes the use of reason and logical thinking as the primary source of knowledge and basis for understanding the world, often rejecting or downplaying the role of intuition or faith
30. rei_____ion belief *n.* the rebirth of a soul in a new body
31. ant_____ogy of religion *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
32. legal pr_____o *n.* a condition or stipulation added to an agreement, contract, or law, usually specifying a particular requirement or limitation that must be met for the agreement to be valid or effective

ANSWERS: 25. olfactory, 26. predilection, 27. banal, 28. banal, 29. rationalism, 30. reincarnation, 31. anthropology, 32. proviso

33. po_____ss task *adj.* having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless
34. rei_____ion cycle *n.* the rebirth of a soul in a new body
35. ter_____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
36. en___f the politician *v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
37. corporate af_____fe *n.* life after death, as believed in many cultures and religious traditions
38. electronic typ_____er *n.* a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over
39. ph_____ne trail *n.* a chemical substance produced by an animal that is secreted into the environment and that affects the behavior or physiology of others of its species
40. per_____on test *n.* the act or process of rearranging or reordering a set of elements or objects in a different sequence or configuration; a specific arrangement or order of a set of elements or objects
41. as_____gy chart *n.* the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world

ANSWERS: 33. pointless, 34. reincarnation, 35. terrifying, 36. engulf, 37. afterlife, 38. typewriter, 39. pheromone, 40. permutation, 41. astrology

51. typ_____er keys *n.* a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over
52. ast_____cal numbers *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
53. com_____ble language *adj.* able to be understood or grasped by the mind; clear and understandable
54. en___f in water *v.* to swallow up; to surround and cover completely
55. delve into as _____gy *n.* the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world
56. per_____on formula *n.* the act or process of rearranging or reordering a set of elements or objects in a different sequence or configuration; a specific arrangement or order of a set of elements or objects
57. af_____fe name *n.* life after death, as believed in many cultures and religious traditions
58. poet la_____te *n.* a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work

ANSWERS: 51. typewriter, 52. astronomical, 53. comprehensible, 54. engulf, 55. astrology, 56. permutation, 57. afterlife, 58. laureate

59. s_c contents *n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant
60. Jo___n satellites *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
61. ho_____rk robot *n.* the tasks involved in cleaning and maintaining a house
62. Jo___n planet *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
63. po_____ss argument *adj.* having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless
64. gamma-ray pu___r *n.* a highly magnetized, rotating neutron star that emits beams of electromagnetic radiation, which can be observed as regular pulses of light
65. Oscar la_____te *n.* a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work
66. low rec_____ity problem *n.* the degree to which a material or product can be reused or repurposed after it has served its original function, without requiring significant modifications or environmental harm

ANSWERS: 59. sac, 60. Jovian, 61. housework, 62. Jovian, 63. pointless, 64. pulsar, 65. laureate, 66. recyclability

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She tried to _____ out the gum that she had been chewing.
 - v.* to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth

2. The areas of _____ and psychology are significantly related to one another.
 - n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

3. The cost of the new equipment was _____ and beyond the company's budget.
 - adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

4. He was fascinated by ancient _____ and spent hours studying horoscopes.
 - n.* the study of the movements and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as having an influence on human affairs and the natural world

5. The perfume industry often uses synthetic _____ to enhance their products' appeal.
 - n.* a chemical substance produced by an animal that is secreted into the environment and that affects the behavior or physiology of others of its species

6. A _____ in the contract allowed for termination under certain circumstances.
 - n.* a condition or stipulation added to an agreement, contract, or law, usually specifying a particular requirement or limitation that must be met for the agreement to be valid or effective

ANSWERS: 1. spit, 2. anthropology, 3. astronomical, 4. astrology, 5. pheromones, 6. proviso

7. The Nobel _____ delivered an inspiring speech to the graduating class.
- n.* a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work
8. The _____ senses play a key role in our taste and flavor perception.
- adj.* relating to the sense of smell; connected with the perception of odors or scents
9. The belief in an _____ comforted those mourning the loss of their loved ones.
- n.* life after death, as believed in many cultures and religious traditions
10. The professor accused the student of being a _____ for constantly challenging the course material.
- n.* a person who rejects all religious, moral, and political beliefs and values; a person who believes life is meaningless and void of purpose
11. I absolutely _____ spiders and can't stand to be near them.
- v.* to feel strong hatred or disgust for someone or something; to be unwilling or reluctant to do something
12. The textbook explanation made the difficult concept _____ to the students.
- adj.* able to be understood or grasped by the mind; clear and understandable
13. The _____ controversy has led many institutions to reconsider their stance on animal testing.
- n.* the practice or method of performing surgical procedures or experiments on live animals for scientific or medical research purposes

ANSWERS: 7. laureate, 8. olfactory, 9. afterlife, 10. nihilist, 11. loathe, 12. comprehensible, 13. vivisection

14. Her love for him was _____ despite all of his flaws.

adj. not subject to any conditions; absolute or complete; not limited by any qualifications or restrictions

15. The interests of the two countries _____.

v. to hit something violently when moving

16. The restaurant's menu had a _____ selection of generic dishes with no unique or exciting options.

adj. lacking originality, creativity, or freshness; uninteresting or dull due to being overused or overly familiar

17. The _____ moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.

adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics

18. The _____ approach to solving the problem involves analyzing data rather than going by gut feelings.

adj. relating to or based on the belief in reason, logic, and critical thinking as the primary source of knowledge or justification; rejecting or skeptical of religious or mystical explanations; (noun) a person who believes or practices rationalism, a philosophical doctrine stating that knowledge and truth are primarily, or solely, derived from reason and logical thinking

19. I placed my valuables in the _____ before heading out on my hike.

n. a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant

20. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

ANSWERS: 14. unconditional, 15. collide, 16. banal, 17. Jovian, 18. rationalist, 19. sac, 20. disappoint

21. The meeting was considered _____ since nothing was accomplished.

adj. having no purpose or reason; serving no useful function; meaningless or senseless

22. Buying new clothes every week is a _____ use of money and resources.

adj. characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense

23. I found an old _____ at a thrift store and used it to write my novel.

n. a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over

24. The _____ of electronic devices is a significant challenge due to the complexity of their components.

n. the degree to which a material or product can be reused or repurposed after it has served its original function, without requiring significant modifications or environmental harm

25. The astronomers detected a _____ in the center of the galaxy.

n. a highly magnetized, rotating neutron star that emits beams of electromagnetic radiation, which can be observed as regular pulses of light

26. She didn't mind doing the _____ as long as it kept her busy and productive.

n. the tasks involved in cleaning and maintaining a house

27. Some religions believe in the _____ of souls after death.

n. the rebirth of a soul in a new body

ANSWERS: 21. pointless, 22. wasteful, 23. typewriter, 24. recyclability, 25. pulsar, 26. housework, 27. reincarnation

28. The fire quickly _____ the entire building.

v. to swallow up; to surround and cover completely

29. He found graffiti left by a previous _____ of the house.

n. a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there

30. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.

adj. very frightening or intimidating

31. Her _____ for spicy food made her the go-to person for restaurant recommendations.

n. a preference or inclination for something; a liking or fondness for something

32. Scientists study the _____ of chemical elements and compounds to better understand their properties and potential uses.

n. the act or process of rearranging or reordering a set of elements or objects in a different sequence or configuration; a specific arrangement or order of a set of elements or objects

33. The university's philosophy department held a series of lectures discussing the influence of _____ in contemporary thought.

n. a philosophical or theoretical approach that emphasizes the use of reason and logical thinking as the primary source of knowledge and basis for understanding the world, often rejecting or downplaying the role of intuition or faith

ANSWERS: 28. engulfed, 29. occupant, 30. terrifying, 31. predilection, 32. permutations, 33. rationalism