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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Richard Wilkinson: How economic inequality harms societies | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

intuition

n. the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

synonym : instinct, gut feeling, sixth sense

(1) creative **intuition**, (2) **intuition** research

Some studies suggest that people's **intuitions** can be influenced by their experiences and biases.

divisive

adj. tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people

synonym : polarizing, contentious, disagreeable

(1) **divisive** question, (2) suppress **divisive** arguments

The proposed policy has been met with **divisive** reactions from the public.

corrosive

adj. having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive

synonym : destructive, erosive, caustic

(1) **corrosive** substance, (2) **corrosive** effect

The **corrosive** acid ate away at the metal pipes.

paradox

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

synonym : incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

(1) French **paradox**, (2) the **paradox** of the heap

There are many theories to explain this **paradox**.

widen

v. to become or make something broader, wider, more extensive

synonym : broaden, enlarge, extend

(1) **widen** in excitement, (2) **widen** a narrowed heart valve

He **widened** his investigation into a medical clinic.

compress

v. to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space

synonym : condense, constrict, squeeze

(1) **compress** the chest, (2) **compress** gas

She **compressed** the files into a single ZIP archive to save space on her computer.

unequal

adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair

synonym : unfair, uneven, imbalanced

(1) **unequal** distribution, (2) **unequal** opportunity

The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly **unequal**.

homicide

n. the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings

synonym : murder, killing, manslaughter

(1) mass **homicide**, (2) serial **homicide**

The detective was called to investigate a **homicide** in the city.

birthrate

n. the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given population in a given period of time, usually a year

synonym : fertility, natality

(1) low **birthrate**, (2) declining **birthrate**

The **birthrate** in many developed countries has been decreasing in recent years.

capita

n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

synonym : head, headcount, person

(1) per **capita** sales, (2) the agricultural yield per **capita**
GDP per **capita** shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.

well-being

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
synonym : health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**
We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

immunization

n. the process of making a person or animal immune to a specific disease by administering a vaccine or other preventative measure

synonym : vaccination, shot, inoculation

(1) **immunization** program, (2) childhood **immunization**
Due to the success of **immunization** programs, certain diseases, such as smallpox, have been eradicated.

bully

n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

synonym : tormentor, intimidator, aggressor

(1) **bully** bystander, (2) **bully** the weak

The schoolyard **bully** terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

scatter

v. to cause to separate and go in different directions

synonym : disperse, spread, bestrew

(1) **scatter** seeds, (2) **scatter** around the internet

The hunter's approach **scattered** the geese.

intern

v. to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

synonym: apprentice, trainee, student

(1) **intern** civilians, (2) medical **intern**

The navy **interned** ships of defeated nations.

fluke

n. a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence

synonym: chance, accident, stroke of luck

(1) lucky **fluke**, (2) **fluke** accident

Winning the lottery was just a **fluke**; I didn't expect it to happen.

hundredfold

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

(1) rise nearly **hundredfold**, (2) improve **hundredfold**

The development team reported two **hundredfold** increases in performance.

punitive

adj. relating to or involving punishment or inflicting punishment; aimed at punishing or disciplining

synonym: punishing, retributive, disciplinary

(1) **punitive** response, (2) **punitive** damages

His coworkers deemed the **punitive** measures taken against the employee too harsh.

italic

adj. referring to a style of writing or typeface in which the letters are slanted to the right, creating a distinctive look, often used for emphasis or to indicate a foreign word or title

synonym: slanted, oblique, sloping

(1) **italic** lettering, (2) write in **italic**

I need to use an **italic** font for emphasis in this paragraph.

socioeconomic

adj. relating to the social and economic factors that shape an individual, group, or community, particularly in terms of income, occupation, education, and social class

synonym : social, economic, financial

(1) **socioeconomic** status, (2) **socioeconomic** issues

The **socioeconomic** conditions of a country can significantly affect its political stability.

anachronism

n. something that is placed, occurring, or belonging in a time period that is not consistent with its chronological setting; a person, idea, or thing that is out of place in its current context

synonym : misplacement, anachrony, chronological error

(1) an **anachronism** in the modern era, (2) cultural **anachronism**

The phrase "dial-up internet" feels like an **anachronism** in today's lightning-fast internet speeds.

unskilled

adj. lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise

synonym : inexperienced, untrained, amateur

(1) **unskilled** salesperson, (2) **unskilled** job

The **unskilled** worker struggled to keep up with the fast-paced manufacturing job.

psychosocial

adj. relating to the interplay between psychological and social factors, especially when it comes to mental health, personality development, and social behavior

synonym : psychological, social, mental

(1) **psychosocial** factors, (2) **psychosocial** well-being

Psychosocial therapy can be beneficial for individuals with mental health conditions.

inferiority

n. the state or condition of being lower in rank, quality, or status; a feeling or sense of being less worthy or capable than others

synonym :

lower status, low self-esteem, inadequacy

(1) **inferiority** complex, (2) **inferiority** mindset

The professor's scathing comments left the student with a sense of **inferiority** about their work.

devalue

v. to reduce the value or worth of something

synonym: diminish, depreciate, reduce

(1) **devalue** the pound, (2) **devalue** a brand

Her negative comments about the project only **devalued** the team's efforts.

disrespect

n. an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something

synonym: impoliteness, rudeness, insult

(1) mean no **disrespect**, (2) **disrespect** for a customer

His **disrespectful** behavior towards his elders earned him a stern warning from his parents.

consumerism

n. a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions

synonym: consumer culture, materialism

(1) anti- **consumerism** movement, (2) global **consumerism**

The rise of **consumerism** has led to an increase in wastefulness and environmental damage.

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**.

cortisol

n. a hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is involved in regulating the body's metabolism, immune system, and blood pressure

synonym:

stress hormone, hydrocortisone

(1) **cortisol** stress, (2) excessive **cortisol**

Cortisol levels in the body are often elevated during times of stress.

confine

v. to restrict the movement of someone or something

synonym: restrict, limit, contain

(1) **confine** themselves solely, (2) **confine** the scope of use

The animal was **confined** in a small cage.

constrain

v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something

synonym: restrict, limit, confine

(1) **constrain** his freedom, (2) **constrain** information flow

The political situation **constrained** the country's economic growth and foreign relations.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. mass ho____de | <i>n.</i> the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings |
| 2. a sense of wel_____ng | <i>n.</i> the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous |
| 3. serial ho____de | <i>n.</i> the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings |
| 4. di____ve question | <i>adj.</i> tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people |
| 5. wi__n in excitement | <i>v.</i> to become or make something broader, wider, more extensive |
| 6. an ana_____sm in the modern era | <i>n.</i> something that is placed, occurring, or belonging in a time period that is not consistent with its chronological setting; a person, idea, or thing that is out of place in its current context |
| 7. childhood imm_____ion | <i>n.</i> the process of making a person or animal immune to a specific disease by administering a vaccine or other preventative measure |
| 8. soc_____mic status | <i>adj.</i> relating to the social and economic factors that shape an individual, group, or community, particularly in terms of income, occupation, education, and social class |
| 9. dis_____ct for a customer | <i>n.</i> an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something |

ANSWERS: 1. homicide, 2. well-being, 3. homicide, 4. divisive, 5. widen, 6. anachronism, 7. immunization, 8. socioeconomic, 9. disrespect

10. inf_____ty mindset *n.* the state or condition of being lower in rank, quality, or status; a feeling or sense of being less worthy or capable than others
11. the pa_____x of the heap *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
12. inf_____ty complex *n.* the state or condition of being lower in rank, quality, or status; a feeling or sense of being less worthy or capable than others
13. low bi_____te *n.* the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given population in a given period of time, usually a year
14. sc_____r seeds *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
15. write in it___c *adj.* referring to a style of writing or typeface in which the letters are slanted to the right, creating a distinctive look, often used for emphasis or to indicate a foreign word or title
16. pu_____ve response *adj.* relating to or involving punishment or inflicting punishment; aimed at punishing or disciplining
17. excessive co_____ol *n.* a hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is involved in regulating the body's metabolism, immune system, and blood pressure
18. in_____on research *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

ANSWERS: 10. inferiority, 11. paradox, 12. inferiority, 13. birthrate, 14. scatter, 15. italic, 16. punitive, 17. cortisol, 18. intuition

19. un_____l opportunity *adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
20. wi__n a narrowed heart valve *v.* to become or make something broader, wider, more extensive
21. co_____e themselves solely *v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something
22. co_____in information flow *v.* to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
23. rise nearly hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
24. medical in____n *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
25. co_____ss gas *v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space
26. it___c lettering *adj.* referring to a style of writing or typeface in which the letters are slanted to the right, creating a distinctive look, often used for emphasis or to indicate a foreign word or title
27. global con_____sm *n.* a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions
28. un_____ed salesperson *adj.* lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise

ANSWERS: 19. unequal, 20. widen, 21. confine, 22. constrain, 23. hundredfold, 24. intern, 25. compress, 26. italic, 27. consumerism, 28. unskilled

29. co_____ol stress *n.* a hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is involved in regulating the body's metabolism, immune system, and blood pressure
30. co_____in his freedom *v.* to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
31. co_____e the scope of use *v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something
32. imm_____ion program *n.* the process of making a person or animal immune to a specific disease by administering a vaccine or other preventative measure
33. improve hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
34. anti-con_____sm movement *n.* a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions
35. creative in_____on *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
36. in____n civilians *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

ANSWERS: 29. cortisol, 30. constrain, 31. confine, 32. immunization, 33. hundredfold, 34. consumerism, 35. intuition, 36. intern

37. soc_____mic issues *adj.* relating to the social and economic factors that shape an individual, group, or community, particularly in terms of income, occupation, education, and social class
38. co_____ve substance *adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive
39. pu_____ve damages *adj.* relating to or involving punishment or inflicting punishment; aimed at punishing or disciplining
40. co_____ve effect *adj.* having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive
41. per ca___a sales *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
42. un_____ed job *adj.* lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise
43. bu__y the weak *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

ANSWERS: 37. socioeconomic, 38. corrosive, 39. punitive, 40. corrosive, 41. capita, 42. unskilled, 43. bully

44. lucky fl__e *n.* a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence
45. un____l distribution *adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
46. psy_____ial well-being *adj.* relating to the interplay between psychological and social factors, especially when it comes to mental health, personality development, and social behavior
47. psy_____ial factors *adj.* relating to the interplay between psychological and social factors, especially when it comes to mental health, personality development, and social behavior
48. de_____e a brand *v.* to reduce the value or worth of something
49. an in_____re future *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety
50. suppress di_____ve arguments *adj.* tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people
51. co_____ss the chest *v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space
52. the agricultural yield per ca____a *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
53. in_____re attachment *adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety

ANSWERS: 44. fluke, 45. unequal, 46. psychosocial, 47. psychosocial, 48. devalue, 49. insecure, 50. divisive, 51. compress, 52. capita, 53. insecure

54. sc____r around the internet *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
55. de____e the pound *v.* to reduce the value or worth of something
56. declining bi____te *n.* the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given population in a given period of time, usually a year
57. fl__e accident *n.* a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence
58. cultural ana____sm *n.* something that is placed, occurring, or belonging in a time period that is not consistent with its chronological setting; a person, idea, or thing that is out of place in its current context
59. bu__y bystander *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
60. French pa____x *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
61. mean no dis____ct *n.* an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something
62. the wel____ng of a nation *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

ANSWERS: 54. scatter, 55. devalue, 56. birthrate, 57. fluke, 58. anachronism, 59. bully, 60. paradox, 61. disrespect, 62. well-being

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The rise of _____ has led to an increase in wastefulness and environmental damage.
 - n.* a cultural and economic ideology that places a high value on the consumption and acquisition of goods and services, often associating personal identity or success with material possessions

2. GDP per _____ shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.
 - n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

3. His coworkers deemed the _____ measures taken against the employee too harsh.
 - adj.* relating to or involving punishment or inflicting punishment; aimed at punishing or disciplining

4. Some studies suggest that people's _____ can be influenced by their experiences and biases.
 - n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

5. There are many theories to explain this _____.
 - n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

6. The professor's scathing comments left the student with a sense of _____ about their work.
 - n.* the state or condition of being lower in rank, quality, or status; a feeling or sense of being less worthy or capable than others

ANSWERS: 1. consumerism, 2. capita, 3. punitive, 4. intuitions, 5. paradox, 6. inferiority

7. _____ therapy can be beneficial for individuals with mental health conditions.
adj. relating to the interplay between psychological and social factors, especially when it comes to mental health, personality development, and social behavior
8. Winning the lottery was just a _____ I didn't expect it to happen.
n. a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence
9. The proposed policy has been met with _____ reactions from the public.
adj. tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people
10. The schoolyard _____ terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.
n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
11. The political situation _____ the country's economic growth and foreign relations.
v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
12. The _____ conditions of a country can significantly affect its political stability.
adj. relating to the social and economic factors that shape an individual, group, or community, particularly in terms of income, occupation, education, and social class
13. His _____ behavior towards his elders earned him a stern warning from his parents.
n. an expression of lack of regard or contempt for someone or something

ANSWERS: 7. Psychosocial, 8. fluke;, 9. divisive, 10. bully, 11. constrained, 12. socioeconomic, 13. disrespectful

14. Children in an unstructured environment often feel _____.
- adj.* not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way, or not assured of safety
15. We are responsible for the care and _____ of all our employees.
- n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
16. The _____ in many developed countries has been decreasing in recent years.
- n.* the number of live births per 1,000 people in a given population in a given period of time, usually a year
17. I need to use an _____ font for emphasis in this paragraph.
- adj.* referring to a style of writing or typeface in which the letters are slanted to the right, creating a distinctive look, often used for emphasis or to indicate a foreign word or title
18. The animal was _____ in a small cage.
- v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something
19. _____ levels in the body are often elevated during times of stress.
- n.* a hormone produced by the adrenal gland that is involved in regulating the body's metabolism, immune system, and blood pressure
20. The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly _____.
- adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
21. Due to the success of _____ programs, certain diseases, such as smallpox, have been eradicated.
- n.* the process of making a person or animal immune to a specific disease by administering a vaccine or other preventative measure

ANSWERS: 14. insecure, 15. well-being, 16. birthrate, 17. italic, 18. confined, 19. Cortisol, 20. unequal, 21. immunization

22. The hunter's approach _____ the geese.
v. to cause to separate and go in different directions
23. Her negative comments about the project only _____ the team's efforts.
v. to reduce the value or worth of something
24. The phrase "dial-up internet" feels like an _____ in today's lightning-fast internet speeds.
n. something that is placed, occurring, or belonging in a time period that is not consistent with its chronological setting; a person, idea, or thing that is out of place in its current context
25. The development team reported two _____ increases in performance.
adj. a hundred times as great or as much
26. He _____ his investigation into a medical clinic.
v. to become or make something broader, wider, more extensive
27. The detective was called to investigate a _____ in the city.
n. the act or instance of killing another person; murder, manslaughter, or other unlawful violent killings
28. The navy _____ ships of defeated nations.
v. to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
29. The _____ worker struggled to keep up with the fast-paced manufacturing job.
adj. lacking the knowledge, training, or specialized skills required for a particular job or task; not having developed or cultivated a particular ability or expertise

ANSWERS: 22. scattered, 23. devalued, 24. anachronism, 25. hundredfold, 26. widened, 27. homicide, 28. interned, 29. unskilled

30. The _____ acid ate away at the metal pipes.

adj. having the ability to corrode or erode a material or substance; causing damage or deterioration over time; harmful or destructive

31. She _____ the files into a single ZIP archive to save space on her computer.

v. to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space

ANSWERS: 30. corrosive, 31. compressed