
voca-builder Documentation

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voca-builder is an Emacs package that was developed to help you build up your vocabulary. It automates most of the steps in the process, so that you could

1. spent more time in actually memorising learning new words leave the tedious origination tasks for voca-builder.
2. focus on your reading with minimal distribution, I.e. switch app and/or check direction.
3. smart process that helps you memoerise the new vocabulary.

If you are learning a foreign language, you know how tedious and time-consuming it is to check a new word that you are not familiar with. It breaks you reading-flow, and therefore decrease your efficient.

vocab-builder provides excellent functionality that will do the checking for you, and shows the meaning as a popup above the text that you are reading. It also records the meaning and the sentence containing the word. All you need to do is press a key.

It can also groups the vocabulary an later on, you can export new vocabularies based on tags or time period.

For full documentation on this package, please see the wiki page.

Installation

The recommended way to install `voca-builder` is via `package.el`, the build-in package manager in Emacs.

`voca-builder.el` is available on the major community maintained repositories <http://melpa.org/>. You can install `voca-builder` with the following command:

M-x `package-install` [RET] `voca-builder` [RET]

or by execute this bit of Emacs Lisp code

```
(unless (package-installed-p 'voca-builder)
  (package-install 'voca-builder))
```

If the installation doesn't work try to refresh the package list:

M-x `package-refresh-contents` [RET]

You can also install manually with two steps: first clone this repository, then add the directory containing `voca-builder.el` to Emacs's search path as follows:

```
(add-to-list 'load-path "~/path/to/voca-builder.el/")
(require 'voca-builder)
```

Configuration

To see all the configurable settings in `voca-builder`, type

```
M-x customize-group [RET] voca-builder [RET]
```

and you are able to customise these variables directly. However, the recommended way to do is to add the non-interactive way.

The important variables are:

`voca-builder/voca-file` where you wanna to save the new vocabulary and their meanings to, the default is `~/.vocabulary`

`voca-builder/current-tag` which tags should added to the vocabulary nodes. The default is “GENE” (general).

`voca-builder/export-file` where to save the exported vocabularies.

The following is a sample.

```
(setq voca-builder/voca-file "~/git/Learning/Emacs_Voca/voca_example.org")
(setq voca-builder/current-tag "Demo")
(setq voca-builder/export-file "~/voca-builder-temp.org")
```

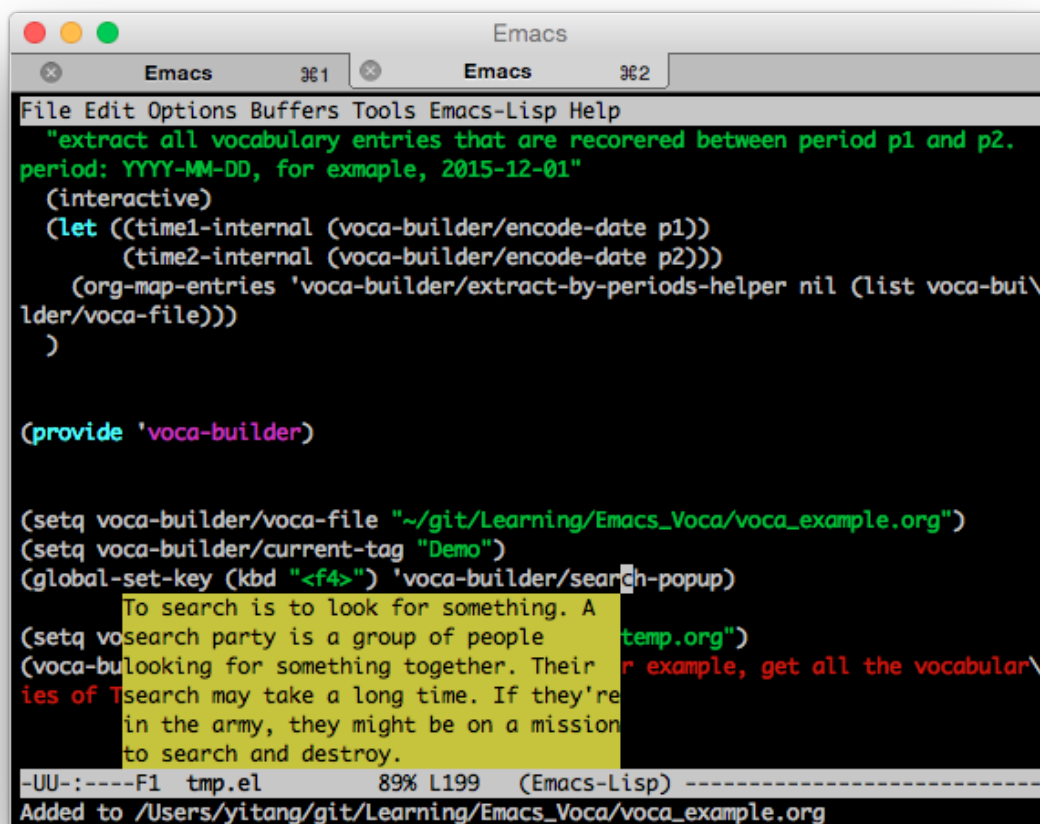
I read all the time and frequently confront words that I am not familiar with, so I bind the keystroke `F4` to shows the meaning quickly.

```
(global-set-key (kbd "<f4>") 'voca-builder/search-popup)
```


Usage

3.1 Fetch the meaning

If I would like to know what the meaning of **search** means in English, I moved the cursor to *c* under *search*, and press F4. The meaning will popup up under the word, as shown below. I don't have to switch to a dictionary app and it won't break my read-flow.



```

Emacs
File Edit Options Buffers Tools Emacs-Lisp Help
"extract all vocabulary entries that are recoreded between period p1 and p2.
period: YYYY-MM-DD, for exmaple, 2015-12-01"
(interactive)
(let ((time1-internal (voca-builder/encode-date p1))
      (time2-internal (voca-builder/encode-date p2)))
  (org-map-entries 'voca-builder/extract-by-periods-helper nil (list voca-bui\
lder/voca-file)))
)

(provide 'voca-builder)

(setq voca-builder/voca-file "~/git/Learning/Emacs_Voca/voca_example.org")
(setq voca-builder/current-tag "Demo")
(global-set-key (kbd "<f4>") 'voca-builder/search-popup)

To search is to look for something. A
search party is a group of people temp.org")
(voca-bu looking for something together. Their r example, get all the vocabular\
ies of Tsearch may take a long time. If they're
in the army, they might be on a mission
to search and destroy.

-UU-:----F1 tmp.el 89% L199 (Emacs-Lisp) -----
Added to /Users/yitang/git/Learning/Emacs_Voca/voca_example.org

```

Also, as the echo area shows, the full meaning and also the full sentence will be added to the voca-file.

Here is a real example when I was reading an article.

```
Tim Cook plans to donate $800m fortune to charity before he dies | Technology | The Guardian: http://www.theguardian.com/techn
08.35 GMT

* Share on Facebook
* Share on Twitter
* Share via Email
* Share on LinkedIn
* Share on Google+
* Share on WhatsApp

Tim Cook is planning to give away all of his near $800m fortune before
he dies, the Apple boss said in a surprisingly frank interview, in
which he also described his sexuality as a "yawner".

Cook, 54, who took over as Apple chief executive from Steve Jobs in
2011, told Fortune magazine that he planned to donate all of his
wealth to charity after providing for his 10-year-old nephew's
education.

Cook, who has spoken publicly about the importance of stopping
HIV/Aids and climate change, as well as championing human rights and
equality, did not specify which causes he would support but said he
had already begun donating money quietly. He said he would develop a
systematic approach to philanthropy, rather than just writing cheques.
If you donate money to a charity or
volunteer to help people in need, you a
further $665m of restricted can call your good deeds philanthropy.

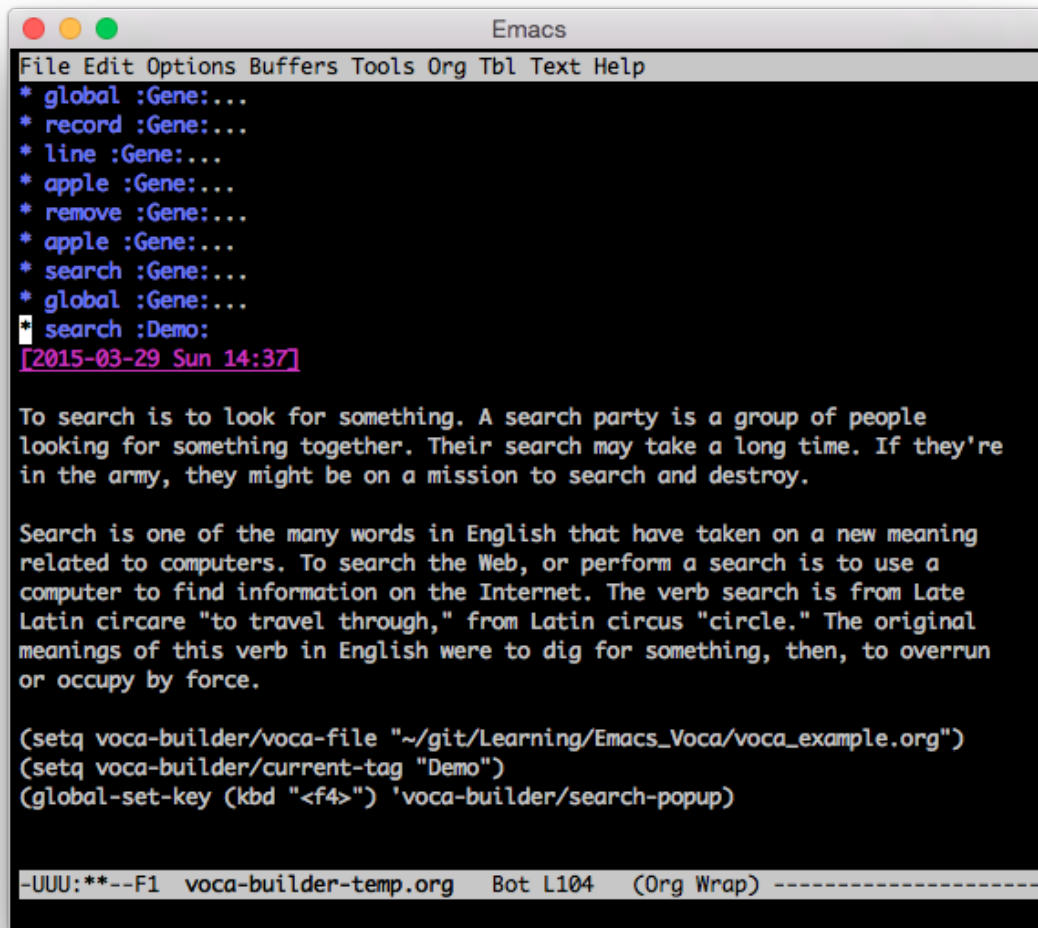
Cook follows other high-profile executives in giving their money away.
In 2010, Warren Buffett and Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates launched
the Giving Pledge, an appeal to billionaires to give at least 50% of
their wealth to charity. Tesla chief executive Elon Musk, former New
York mayor Michael Bloomberg, Facebook boss Mark Zuckerberg and eBay
founder Pierre Omidyar have all signed up.
```

3.2 Export vocabularies by tags

It is useful when you want to group vocabularies and revise them altogether, for example, all the biology terms. You can do it using `voca-builder/extract-by-tags` function. For example,

```
(voca-builder/extract-by-tags "Demo")
```

will export all the vocabularies that are tagged by "Demo" to `~/voca-builder-temp.org`.

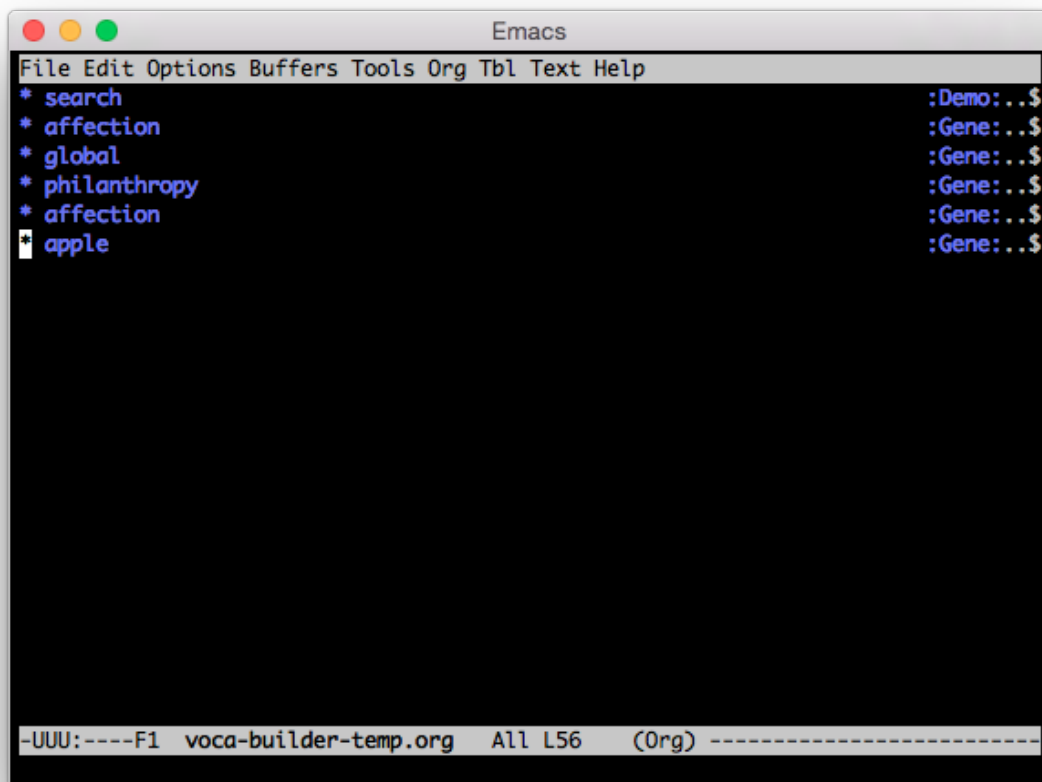


3.3 Export vocabularies by date

You may also want to export all the new vocabulary you learnt during one particular period, like a semester, an academic year using `voca-builder/extract-period` function. For example

```
(voca-builder/extract-period "2015-01-05" "2015-04-01")
```

will export all the vocabularies that are recorded between “2015-01-05” and “2014-04-01”.



Note you can combine these two function together.

4.1 It Make Your Life Easier

Image the process you want to look in a new word, it probably would like this:

1. put down the book you reading,
2. find the dictionary or open the app,
3. repeat step 1-2 few times if the vocabulary is quit complex,
4. now you get the meaning, trying to comprehensive it,
5. then you write it down in a note book, with the meaning,
6. if you are very serious, you probably write down the sentence as an example,
7. after all these, you go back to continue reading but lost the flow.

What if you can do the step 1-6 automatically, and immediately as you thought you wanna see what's the meaning of a word? This is what voca-bulder can do for you, all you need to do is press F4 (the default setting), without leaving Emacs, searching and recording. Sounds pretty cool is it?

Even more important, you can quarry your vocbaulary database, and search, for example, if you are prepare an interview in banking sector, you can bring up all the banking related terminology, and study them all together, or you wanna strength your memmoery and wants to remmeber again before you forget, you can bring up all the words you learnt last week, or this month etc.

4.2 Human-Friendly Dictionary Database

take conciousness for example, definition from oxford is

“[MASS NOUN] The state of being aware of and responsive to one's surroundings: “

while for vocabulary.com, it has more human friendly defition, which are for human, and edited by humans.

“When you are awake and aware of your surroundings, that's consciousness. There are different types of consciousness, including social consciousness, being aware of injustices in society. “

“The early Latin word conscius meant “with knowing,” but it meant a shared knowledge, a meaning that was retained through the 16th Century. John Locke was the first to describe consciousness in relation to the individual, referring to it as “the perception of what passes in a man's own mind.” If you lose consciousness during the performance, we'll wake you up with some smelling salts! “

(org-map-entries 'yt/org-export-this-header "+ExportFile")