

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Shannon Odell: What's the smartest age? | TED Talk
https://www.ted.com/talks/shannon_odell_what_s_the_smartest_age

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

decathlon

n. a combined event in athletics consisting of ten track and field events

(1) **decathlon** athlete, (2) put himself in for the **decathlon**
He won Olympic gold medals in the **decathlon**.

underestimate

v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

synonym: underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

fluent

adj. able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

synonym: eloquent, articulate, smooth-spoken

(1) **fluent** Chinese, (2) in a **fluent** tone

She learned five languages but is only **fluent** in two of them.

recite

v. to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,

synonym: repeat, replicate, recount

(1) **recite** a charm, (2) **recite** a long list of the article

He could **recite** all of Shakespeare's works.

prune

n. a dried plum that has a black, wrinkled appearance;
(verb) to cut off branches from a tree, bush, or plant,
especially to encourage growth

synonym : (verb) trim, (verb) cut back

(1) **prune** a branch, (2) wrinkle like a **prune**

You should remove the seeds from the **prunes** before cooking.

neuron

n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

synonym : nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

myelin

n. a white fatty substance that covers around nerves, helping them to send signals effectively

synonym : medulla

(1) **myelin** encasing the axons, (2) **myelin** protein

Myelin sheath allows electrical impulses to travel quickly and efficiently along the nerve cells.

remodel

v. to change the structure or form of something

synonym : refurbish, remake, revamp

(1) **remodel** the car, (2) **remodel** portfolio

We are **remodeling** these rooms now.

flourish

v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

synonym : boom, advance, succeed

(1) **flourish** economically, (2) **flourish** worldwide

The Ottoman Empire **flourished** for over five centuries.

prefrontal

adj. in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain

(1) **prefrontal** bone, (2) **prefrontal** region

Research shows that damage to the **prefrontal** cortex leads

to increased aggression.

riddle

n. a type of question that describes something in a difficult and confusing way, and that has a surprising answer, often asked as a game

synonym: mystery, puzzle, enigma

(1) **riddle** me a riddle, (2) solve the **riddle**

The **riddle** remains mysterious to us.

solver

n. a thinker who finds an answer to a problem or a difficult situation; a piece of software or the algorithm that solves a mathematical problem

synonym: thinker

(1) puzzle- **solver**, (2) linear **solver**

The flow **solver** is validated against the experiment.

crossword

n. a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues

(1) do a **crossword** puzzle, (2) good at **crossword** puzzles

He sat frowning over a **crossword** puzzle.

hippocampus

n. a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates that is part of the limbic system and is vital for memory

(1) involvement of the **hippocampus**, (2) neurons in the **hippocampus**

The **hippocampus** is crucial for learning and memory storage.

adventurous

adj. willing to take risks and try new or difficult things

synonym: daring, risk-taking, bold

(1) lead an **adventurous** life, (2) **adventurous** pioneers

He has an **adventurous** spirit and is unafraid of risks.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. involvement of the hip_____us | <i>n.</i> a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates that is part of the limbic system and is vital for memory |
| 2. ne___n cell body | <i>n.</i> a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body |
| 3. fl_____sh worldwide | <i>v.</i> to grow or develop vigorously or successfully |
| 4. pr___e a branch | <i>n.</i> a dried plum that has a black, wrinkled appearance; (<i>v.</i>) to cut off branches from a tree, bush, or plant, especially to encourage growth |
| 5. neurons in the hip_____us | <i>n.</i> a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates that is part of the limbic system and is vital for memory |
| 6. und_____ate the probability | <i>v.</i> to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is |
| 7. excite the ne___ns | <i>n.</i> a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body |
| 8. pre_____al bone | <i>adj.</i> in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain |
| 9. put himself in for the de_____on | <i>n.</i> a combined event in athletics consisting of ten track and field events |

ANSWERS: 1. hippocampus, 2. neuron, 3. flourish, 4. prune, 5. hippocampus, 6. underestimate, 7. neuron, 8. prefrontal, 9. decathlon

10. solve the ri___e *n.* a type of question that describes something in a difficult and confusing way, and that has a surprising answer, often asked as a game
11. re___e a long list of the article *v.* to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,
12. wrinkle like a pr___e *n.* a dried plum that has a black, wrinkled appearance; (verb) to cut off branches from a tree, bush, or plant, especially to encourage growth
13. do a cr_____rd puzzle *n.* a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues
14. re___e a charm *v.* to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,
15. re_____l the car *v.* to change the structure or form of something
16. fl___t Chinese *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
17. my___n encasing the axons *n.* a white fatty substance that covers around nerves, helping them to send signals effectively
18. good at cr_____rd puzzles *n.* a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues

ANSWERS: 10. riddle, 11. recite, 12. prune, 13. crossword, 14. recite, 15. remodel, 16. fluent, 17. myelin, 18. crossword

19. in a fl___t tone *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
20. pre_____al region *adj.* in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain
21. re_____l portfolio *v.* to change the structure or form of something
22. linear so____r *n.* a thinker who finds an answer to a problem or a difficult situation; a piece of software or the algorithm that solves a mathematical problem
23. puzzle-so____r *n.* a thinker who finds an answer to a problem or a difficult situation; a piece of software or the algorithm that solves a mathematical problem
24. de_____on athlete *n.* a combined event in athletics consisting of ten track and field events
25. adv_____us pioneers *adj.* willing to take risks and try new or difficult things
26. my____n protein *n.* a white fatty substance that covers around nerves, helping them to send signals effectively
27. fl_____sh economically *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
28. lead an adv_____us life *adj.* willing to take risks and try new or difficult things
29. und_____ate an enemy *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
30. ri____e me a riddle *n.* a type of question that describes something in a difficult and confusing way, and that has a surprising answer, often asked as a game

ANSWERS: 19. fluent, 20. prefrontal, 21. remodel, 22. solver, 23. solver, 24. decathlon, 25. adventurous, 26. myelin, 27. flourish, 28. adventurous, 29. underestimate, 30. riddle

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The Ottoman Empire _____ for over five centuries.
v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
2. Research shows that damage to the _____ cortex leads to increased aggression.
adj. in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain
3. The flow _____ is validated against the experiment.
n. a thinker who finds an answer to a problem or a difficult situation; a piece of software or the algorithm that solves a mathematical problem
4. Our body transfers information along each _____ using an electrical impulse.
n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
5. The _____ is crucial for learning and memory storage.
n. a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates that is part of the limbic system and is vital for memory
6. _____ sheath allows electrical impulses to travel quickly and efficiently along the nerve cells.
n. a white fatty substance that covers around nerves, helping them to send signals effectively
7. They frequently _____ their abilities and felt inferior.
v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

ANSWERS: 1. flourished, 2. prefrontal, 3. solver, 4. neuron, 5. hippocampus, 6. Myelin, 7. underestimated

8. She learned five languages but is only _____ in two of them.
adj. able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
9. The _____ remains mysterious to us.
n. a type of question that describes something in a difficult and confusing way, and that has a surprising answer, often asked as a game
10. He could _____ all of Shakespeare's works.
v. to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,
11. He has an _____ spirit and is unafraid of risks.
adj. willing to take risks and try new or difficult things
12. He won Olympic gold medals in the _____.
n. a combined event in athletics consisting of ten track and field events
13. He sat frowning over a _____ puzzle.
n. a word puzzle consisting of a grid of black and white squares and blanks into which words crossing vertically and horizontally are written according to clues
14. We are _____ these rooms now.
v. to change the structure or form of something
15. You should remove the seeds from the _____ before cooking.
n. a dried plum that has a black, wrinkled appearance; (verb) to cut off branches from a tree, bush, or plant, especially to encourage growth

ANSWERS: 8. fluent, 9. riddle, 10. recite, 11. adventurous, 12. decathlon, 13. crossword, 14. remodeling, 15. prunes