# **Englist.me**

# Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Eva-Maria Geigl: The history of the world according to cats | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/eva\_maria\_geigl\_the\_history\_of\_the\_world\_according\_to\_cats



# Advanced Words Only

#### **IMPORTANT**

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# **Session 1: Word List**

#### germ

 a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

### battleship

 a large, heavily armed warship that is designed to engage in naval warfare

synonym: warship, navy ship, military vessel

(1) **battleship** gray, (2) an up-to-date **battleship**The first-class **battleship** was equipped with a powerful cannon.

# firefight

 a struggle to extinguish a fire; a military engagement in which small arms and other weapons are used

synonym: battle, conflict, fight

(1) killed in a **firefight**, (2) turn into a **firefight**. The platoon experienced a full-scale **firefight**.

# cling

v. to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something

synonym: stick, adhere, attach

(1) **cling** onto power, (2) **cling** tightly to the skin He **clings** to the hope that he will find a job soon.

# plank

n. a long, flat piece of wood or other material that is used for construction or as a platform; an exercise in which a person holds their body in a straight line supported by their hands and toes

synonym: board, timber, beam

(1) oak plank, (2) plank exercise

He was ordered to walk the **plank** by the pirate captain.

#### morale

 the emotional or mental state of a person or group, especially in relation to confidence, enthusiasm, and determination

synonym: spirit, confidence, optimism

(1) the **morale** of soldiers, (2) improve employee **morale**The team's **morale** improved after winning the championship.

torpedo

 a weapon that is designed to be launched from a ship, submarine, or aircraft and that is propelled through the water by a motor

synonym: missile, explosive, underwater bomb

(1) torpedo attack, (2) air-dropped torpedo

The submarine launched a **torpedo** at the enemy ship.

#### shatter

- v. to break suddenly into many pieces
- synonym: break, crash, destroy
- (1) **shatter** the plate, (2) **shatter** a world record Her husband's death **shattered** her life entirely.

#### miraculous

adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpectedsynonym: amazing, astonishing, awesome

(1) a **miraculous** encounter, (2) go through a **miraculous** change

He made a miraculous recovery.

# retiring

adj. withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved

synonym: shy, leaving, quitting

(1) near retiring age, (2) a retiring pension

The **retiring** CEO passed on the reins to his successor.

#### serviceable

adj. fit for use or suitable for a particular purpose

synonym: usable, functional, practical

(1) serviceable job, (2) old but serviceable

The **serviceable** clothes were worn but still in good condition.

# solitary

adj. existing, living, or doing without others

synonym: lonely, unsociable, singular

(1) use of **solitary** confinement, (2) a **solitary** traveler He never uttered a **solitary** word.

#### predator

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

synonym: vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex predator, (2) sexual predators

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

#### sidekick

 a person who is closely associated with and supports another person, especially in a work or professional capacity; a person who is a close and loyal companion

synonym: companion, helper, ally

(1) a detective's **sidekick**, (2) his best friend's **sidekick** 

The superhero's **sidekick** was always there to help him.

#### domesticate

v. to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company

synonym: tame, naturalize, cultivate

(1) easy to **domesticate**, (2) **domesticate** the plant

We **domesticate** cows to gain milk and meat.

### fertile

adj. capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive synonym: fruitful, productive, rich

(1) **fertile** ground, (2) **fertile** market

Herbs require **fertile** soil in a sunny, sheltered location.

#### neolithic

adj. (also called New Stone Age) the period of human history that followed the end of the last ice age and that is characterized by the development of agriculture and the use of polished stone tools

synonym: ancient, old, primitive

(1) the **neolithic** age, (2) **neolithic** society

The **neolithic** village was located near a river.

silo

n. a tall, cylindrical structure, usually made of concrete or steel, that is used for storing grain, feed, or other dry materials; a system or structure that is isolated or separate from others

synonym: storage, warehouse, barn

(1) nuclear silo, (2) silo organization

The farmer used a **silo** to store feed for the animals.

#### horde

 a large group of people or animals, especially one that is chaotic or uncontrolled

synonym: crowd, swarm, mass

(1) **horde** of attackers, (2) the **horde** of shoppers The **horde** of zombies was approaching quickly.

rodent

 a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail

synonym: mouse, rat, hamster

(1) rodent repellent, (2) prevent rodent damage

He set up a trap to catch the **rodent**.

#### wildcat

 a small, carnivorous mammal with a long, slim body, short legs, and a long, bushy tail that is native to North and Central America and Eurasia; a risky or unproven venture

synonym:

untamed cat, lynx, reckless

(1) wildcat speculation, (2) African wildcat

The forest wildcat was known for its agility and strength.

#### carnivorous

adj. feeding on the flesh of other animals

*synonym*: meat-eating, predatory, flesh-eating

(1) **carnivorous** cell, (2) aquatic **carnivorous** mammal The **carnivorous** dinosaur preyed on other animals.

### granary

 a storehouse or other building where grain is kept; a place where grain is grown

synonym: storage, warehouse, barn

(1) the public granary, (2) granary bread

The farmers stored their rice in the rice **granary** to protect it from pests.

#### mealtime

n. the time when you eat a meal

synonym: time to eat, dining time

(1) enjoy our mealtime, (2) family mealtime

He always looked forward to **mealtime** because he was a big foodie.

#### Mediterranean

- n. the sea encircled by southern Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia
- (1) **Mediterranean** agriculture, (2) **Mediterranean** climate They plan to take a **Mediterranean** cruise.

#### vermin

small animals, such as rats and mice, that are considered to be harmful

synonym: pests, parasites, rodents

(1) plague of **vermin**, (2) **vermin** control

She set traps to catch the **vermin** in her house.

#### scourge

 a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely

synonym: plaque, disaster, curse

(1) <b>scourge</b> of AIDS,	(2) bring a <b>scourge</b> under control
The plague was a sco	urge that killed millions of people.

#### gnaw

v. to bite or chew on something persistently or nervously; to wear away at something gradually

synonym: chew, bite, annoy

(1) **gnaw** a hole in a wall, (2) **gnaw** at the national sentiment She couldn't stop **gnawing** on her nails.

#### trot

v. to run or jog at a moderate pace; to walk with long, quick strides

synonym: jog, run, race

(1) **trot** across the street, (2) **trot** off happily She **trotted** to keep up with him.

#### revered

 highly respected or admired, often because of moral or spiritual qualities

synonym: respected, admired, honored

(1) **revered** figure, (2) the most **revered** President The **revered** teacher was loved by her students.

#### venomous

adj. extremely poisonous or injurious; containing or producing venom; marked by deep ill will

synonym: poisonous, toxic, lethal

(1) the **venomous** jellyfish's sting, (2) have **venomous** eyes The **venomous** snake bit him, causing him to go into shock.

# immortality

- n. the state or quality of being able to live or last foreversynonym: endless life, timelessness, agelessness
- (1) the **immortality** of the soul, (2) achieve **immortality** Many people believe in the concept of **immortality** and an afterlife.

#### fresco

 a painting technique in which water and pigment are applied to wet plaster, producing a durable and luminous image

synonym: mural, painting, wall art

# (1) medieval **fresco**, (2) **fresco** secco

The **fresco** paintings in the church were over 500 years old.

# hieroglyph

a writing system using picture symbols, such as the one used in ancient Egypt

synonym: character, cipher, figure

(1) Egyptian **hieroglyph**, (2) the **hieroglyph** of the bird Each beautiful **hieroglyph** represents either an idea or a sound.

# mummify

v. to embalm and preserve the body of a deceased person, especially in ancient Egypt

synonym: embalm, preserve, desiccate

(1) **mummify** a corpse, (2) **mummify** a body

The ancient Egyptians believed in **mummifying** their dead to preserve the body for the afterlife.

# lineage

- n. the ancestry of a person, group, or species
- synonym: ancestry, descent, heritage
- (1) maternal lineage, (2) lineage tree

Scientists traced the **lineage** of the species back millions of years by studying fossils.

#### ornate

adj. elaborately or excessively decorated

synonym: decorative, elaborate, fancy

(1) **ornate** ceiling, (2) depicted in **ornate** detail

She wore an **ornate** necklace to the formal event.

#### seafarer

 a person who works at sea, especially on a merchant ship or a navy vessel; a person who is experienced in sailing or navigating on the sea

synonym: sailor, mariner, navigator

(1) qualified **seafarer**, (2) fellow **seafarer** 

The experienced **seafarer** told stories of his adventures on the high seas.

#### tame

v. to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training

synonym: domesticate, soften, (adjective) harmless

(1) tame a wild beast, (2) a tame animal

We have to **tame** substantial financial deficits at first.

#### descend

v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

synonym: dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

### docile

adj. easily controlled or managed, or willing to be led or instructed

synonym: tame, obedient, submissive

(1) seemingly **docile** animal, (2) a **docile** patient The **docile** dog followed its owner's commands.

# **Session 2: Spelling**

1. the ho\_e of shoppers n. a

2. re\_\_\_\_d figure

3. the mo\_\_\_e of soldiers

qualified se\_\_\_\_er

5. fr\_\_\_o secco

6. ho\_\_e of attackers

7. turn into a fi ht

8. have ve us eyes

9. Med ean climate

 a large group of people or animals, especially one that is chaotic or uncontrolled

v. highly respected or admired, often because of moral or spiritual qualities

 n. the emotional or mental state of a person or group, especially in relation to confidence, enthusiasm, and determination

n. a person who works at sea, especially on a merchant ship or a navy vessel; a person who is experienced in sailing or navigating on the sea

 a painting technique in which water and pigment are applied to wet plaster, producing a durable and luminous image

 a large group of people or animals, especially one that is chaotic or uncontrolled

 a struggle to extinguish a fire; a military engagement in which small arms and other weapons are used

adj. extremely poisonous or injurious;containing or producing venom; markedby deep ill will

n. the sea encircled by southern Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia

ANSWERS: 1. horde, 2. revered, 3. morale, 4. seafarer, 5. fresco, 6. horde, 7. firefight, 8. venomous, 9. Mediterranean

10.	bring a sce under control	n.	a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely
11.	improve employee moe	n.	the emotional or mental state of a person or group, especially in relation to confidence, enthusiasm, and determination
12.	Egyptian hieph	n.	a writing system using picture symbols, such as the one used in ancient Egypt
13.	go through a mirus change	adj.	very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
14.	depicted in ore detail	adj.	elaborately or excessively decorated
15.	maternal lie	n.	the ancestry of a person, group, or species
16.	an up-to-date batip	<i>n</i> .	a large, heavily armed warship that is designed to engage in naval warfare
17.	nuclear so	n.	a tall, cylindrical structure, usually made of concrete or steel, that is used for storing grain, feed, or other dry materials; a system or structure that is isolated or separate from others
18.	lie tree	n.	the ancestry of a person, group, or species
19.	enjoy our meme	n.	the time when you eat a meal
20.	gry bread	n.	a storehouse or other building where grain is kept; a place where grain is grown
21.	too attack	n.	a weapon that is designed to be launched from a ship, submarine, or aircraft and that is propelled through the water by a motor

ANSWERS: 10. scourge, 11. morale, 12. hieroglyph, 13. miraculous, 14. ornate, 15. lineage, 16. battleship, 17. silo, 18. lineage, 19. mealtime, 20. granary, 21. torpedo

22.	sce of AIDS	n.	a person or thing that causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish someone severely
23.	medieval fro	n.	a painting technique in which water and pigment are applied to wet plaster, producing a durable and luminous image
24.	wit speculation	n.	a small, carnivorous mammal with a long, slim body, short legs, and a long, bushy tail that is native to North and Central America and Eurasia; a risky or unproven venture
25.	seemingly doe animal	adj.	easily controlled or managed, or willing to be led or instructed
26.	so organization	n.	a tall, cylindrical structure, usually made of concrete or steel, that is used for storing grain, feed, or other dry materials; a system or structure that is isolated or separate from others
27.	the most red President	<i>v</i> .	highly respected or admired, often because of moral or spiritual qualities
28.	muy a corpse	<i>v</i> .	to embalm and preserve the body of a deceased person, especially in ancient Egypt
29.	the immty of the soul	n.	the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
30.	the hieph of the bird	n.	a writing system using picture symbols, such as the one used in ancient Egypt
31.	carus cell	adj.	feeding on the flesh of other animals

ANSWERS: 22. scourge, 23. fresco, 24. wildcat, 25. docile, 26. silo, 27. revered, 28. mummify, 29. immortality, 30. hieroglyph, 31. carnivorous

32.	killed in a fiht	n.	a struggle to extinguish a fire; a military engagement in which small arms and other weapons are used
33.	ded a steep hill	v.	to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
34.	batip gray	n.	a large, heavily armed warship that is designed to engage in naval warfare
35.	fee ground	adj.	capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
36.	shr the plate	<i>v</i> .	to break suddenly into many pieces
37.	clg onto power	ν.	to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something
38.	tt across the street	<i>v</i> .	to run or jog at a moderate pace; to walk with long, quick strides
39.	domte the plant	<i>v</i> .	to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company
40.	African wit	n.	a small, carnivorous mammal with a long, slim body, short legs, and a long, bushy tail that is native to North and Central America and Eurasia; a risky or unproven venture
41.	fellow seer	n.	a person who works at sea, especially on a merchant ship or a navy vessel; a person who is experienced in sailing or navigating on the sea
42.	family meme	n.	the time when you eat a meal

ANSWERS: 32. firefight, 33. descend, 34. battleship, 35. fertile, 36. shatter, 37. cling, 38. trot, 39. domesticate, 40. wildcat, 41. seafarer, 42. mealtime

43.	air-dropped too	n.	a weapon that is designed to be launched from a ship, submarine, or aircraft and that is propelled through the water by a motor
44.	ore ceiling	adj.	elaborately or excessively decorated
45.	tt off happily	ν.	to run or jog at a moderate pace; to walk with long, quick strides
46.	achieve immty	n.	the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
47.	a sory traveler	adj.	existing, living, or doing without others
48.	serle job	adj.	fit for use or suitable for a particular purpose
49.	g_w a hole in a wall	v.	to bite or chew on something persistently or nervously; to wear away at something gradually
50.	his best friend's sick	n.	a person who is closely associated with and supports another person, especially in a work or professional capacity; a person who is a close and loyal companion
51.	old but serle	adj.	fit for use or suitable for a particular purpose
52.	shr a world record	<i>v</i> .	to break suddenly into many pieces
53.	near reng age	adj.	withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
54.	sexual prors	n.	an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

ANSWERS: 43. torpedo, 44. ornate, 45. trot, 46. immortality, 47. solitary, 48. serviceable, 49. gnaw, 50. sidekick, 51. serviceable, 52. shatter, 53. retiring, 54. predator

55.	a reng pension	adj.	withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
56.	the veus jellyfish's sting	adj.	extremely poisonous or injurious; containing or producing venom; marked by deep ill will
57.	neic society	adj.	(also called New Stone Age) the period of human history that followed the end of the last ice age and that is characterized by the development of agriculture and the use of polished stone tools
58.	a gm-free environment	n.	a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
59.	ven control	n.	small animals, such as rats and mice, that are considered to be harmful
60.	clg tightly to the skin	ν.	to hold onto something tightly; to be closely attached to someone or something
61.	the neic age	adj.	(also called New Stone Age) the period of human history that followed the end of the last ice age and that is characterized by the development of agriculture and the use of polished stone tools
62.	aquatic carus mammal	adj.	feeding on the flesh of other animals
63.	apex pror	n.	an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

ANSWERS: 55. retiring, 56. venomous, 57. neolithic, 58. germ, 59. vermin, 60. cling, 61. neolithic, 62. carnivorous, 63. predator

64.	easy to domte	ν.	to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company
65.	ded by elevator	ν.	to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
66.	fee market	adj.	capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
67.	a detective's sick	n.	a person who is closely associated with and supports another person, especially in a work or professional capacity; a person who is a close and loyal companion
68.	muy a body	v.	to embalm and preserve the body of a deceased person, especially in ancient Egypt
69.	prevent rot damage	n.	a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail
70.	antibiotic-resistant gm	n.	a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
71.	oak plk	n.	a long, flat piece of wood or other material that is used for construction or as a platform; an exercise in which a person holds their body in a straight line supported by their hands and toes
72.	te a wild beast	ν.	to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training

ANSWERS: 64. domesticate, 65. descend, 66. fertile, 67. sidekick, 68. mummify, 69. rodent, 70. germ, 71. plank, 72. tame

73.	rot repellent	n.	a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail
74.	a te animal	v.	to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training
75.	a mirus encounter	adj.	very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
76.	plague of ven	n.	small animals, such as rats and mice, that are considered to be harmful
77.	g_w at the national sentiment	<i>v</i> .	to bite or chew on something persistently or nervously; to wear away at something gradually
78.	the public gry	n.	a storehouse or other building where grain is kept; a place where grain is grown
79.	plk exercise	n.	a long, flat piece of wood or other material that is used for construction or as a platform; an exercise in which a person holds their body in a straight line supported by their hands and toes
80.	Medean agriculture	n.	the sea encircled by southern Europe, northern Africa, and western Asia
81.	use of sory confinement	adj.	existing, living, or doing without others
82.	a doe patient	adj.	easily controlled or managed, or willing

ANSWERS: 73. rodent, 74. tame, 75. miraculous, 76. vermin, 77. gnaw, 78. granary, 79. plank, 80. Mediterranean, 81. solitary, 82. docile

# **Session 3: Fill in the Blanks**

neolithic, 7. revered, 8. wildcat

<ol> <li>The submarine launched a at the enemy ship.</li> <li>a weapon that is designed to be launched from a ship, submarine, or aircraft and that is propelled through the water by a motor</li> </ol>
<ul><li>2. Each beautiful represents either an idea or a sound.</li><li>n. a writing system using picture symbols, such as the one used in ancient Egyl</li></ul>
3. He never uttered a word.  adj. existing, living, or doing without others
<ol> <li>The ancient Egyptians believed in their dead to preserve the body for the afterlife.</li> </ol>
v. to embalm and preserve the body of a deceased person, especially in ancier Egypt
5. She to keep up with him.  v. to run or jog at a moderate pace; to walk with long, quick strides
6. The village was located near a river. adj. (also called New Stone Age) the period of human history that followed the en of the last ice age and that is characterized by the development of agriculture and the use of polished stone tools
7. The teacher was loved by her students.  v. highly respected or admired, often because of moral or spiritual qualities
<ul> <li>8. The forest was known for its agility and strength.</li> <li>n. a small, carnivorous mammal with a long, slim body, short legs, and a long, bushy tail that is native to North and Central America and Eurasia; a risky or unproven venture</li> </ul>
ANSWERS: 1. torpedo, 2. hieroglyph, 3. solitary, 4. mummifying, 5. trotted, 6.

ANSWERS: 9. shattered, 10. Mediterranean, 11. firefight, 12. immortality, 13. fertile, 14. predator's, 15. carnivorous, 16. venomous, 17. lineage

17. Scientists traced the \_\_\_\_\_ of the species back millions of years by studying

the ancestry of a person, group, or species

fossils.

18. The dog followed its owner's commands.
adj. easily controlled or managed, or willing to be led or instructed
19. He always looked forward to because he was a big foodie.
n. the time when you eat a meal
20. She wore an necklace to the formal event.
adj. elaborately or excessively decorated
21. We have to substantial financial deficits at first.
v. to make wild animals domesticated or controlled, especially through specific training; (adjective) not dangerous or afraid of people, either naturally or because of specific training
22. She set traps to catch the in her house.
n. small animals, such as rats and mice, that are considered to be harmful
23. The paintings in the church were over 500 years old.
<ul> <li>a painting technique in which water and pigment are applied to wet plaster, producing a durable and luminous image</li> </ul>
24. The experienced told stories of his adventures on the high seas.
<ul> <li>a person who works at sea, especially on a merchant ship or a navy vessel; a person who is experienced in sailing or navigating on the sea</li> </ul>
25. The first-class was equipped with a powerful cannon.
n. a large, heavily armed warship that is designed to engage in naval warfare
26. The CEO passed on the reins to his successor.
adj. withdrawing from a position or activity, or becoming more secluded or reserved
ANSWERS: 18. docile, 19. mealtime, 20. ornate, 21. tame, 22. vermin, 23. fresco, 24 seafarer, 25. battleship, 26. retiring

27.	The farmer used a	_ to store feed for the animals.
n.		cture, usually made of concrete or steel, that is used for other dry materials; a system or structure that is isolated ers
28	He made a	recovery
		, or completely unexpected
29.	We cow	s to gain milk and meat.
		nals or plants to provide food, power, or company
30.	She couldn't stop	on her nails.
v.	to bite or chew on so something gradually	mething persistently or nervously; to wear away at
31.	She was fr	om an old Italian noble family.
<i>v</i> .	to move downward a relationship of blood	nd lower; to come from, or to be connected by a
32.	The plague was a	that killed millions of people.
n.	a person or thing that someone severely	causes great suffering or destruction; (verb) to punish
33.	The farmers stored the	ir rice in the rice to protect it from pests.
n.	a storehouse or othe	building where grain is kept; a place where grain is grown
34.	The clot	hes were worn but still in good condition.
adj	f. fit for use or suitable	for a particular purpose
	SWERS: 27. silo, 28. m scourge, 33. granary, 3	iraculous, 29. domesticate, 30. gnawing, 31. descended, 34. serviceable

Vocab-Builder Ref from "Eva-Maria Geigl: The history of the world according to cats | TED Talk" (41 words)