Englist.me

Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

David Andrew Quist: Could fungi actually be the key to humanity's survival? | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/david_andrew_quist_could _fungi_actually_be_the_key_to_humanity_s_survival



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

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym: mold, mildew, yeast

(1) fungus infection, (2) symbiotic fungus

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

embarrass

- v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate
- (1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

itch

v. to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it

synonym: scratch, tingle, irritate

(1) itch constantly, (2) itch to speak

I can't stop **itching** my arm because of the mosquito bite.

misunderstand

v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way synonym: misinterpret, misperceive, misapprehend

(1) **misunderstand** each other, (2) **misunderstand** entirely about her

You should not **misunderstand** the meaning of freedom.

mold

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

synonym: cavity, cast, mildew

(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy

Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.

rot

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

synonym: perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will rot.

spoil

v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad

synonym: rot, decay, deteriorate

(1) **spoil** a person's sport, (2) **spoil** the surprise If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will **spoil**.

mushroom

 a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap

synonym: fungus, toadstool

(1) **mushroom** spores, (2) **mushroom** cultivation

The **mushroom** risotto was delicious, but I couldn't identify all the mushrooms in it.

backstory

n. the history and events that occur before the main events of a story or the history and details of a person or thing that are not widely known synonym: history, background, prehistory

(1) the **backstory** about this sweet moment, (2) **backstory** plot

The **backstory** of the main character added depth to the story.

desolate

adj. deserted, barren, or lonely; causing a feeling of sadness or hopelessness

synonym: barren, stark, uninhabited

(1) a desolate scene, (2) desolate moon

The deserted island was **desolate** and uninhabited.

algae

- A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
- (1) algae biofuel, (2) blue algae

Algae has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym: detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

dinosaur

 a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin

synonym: reptile, beast, monster

(1) hulking dinosaur, (2) dinosaur fossil

The discovery of a new **dinosaur** species made headlines in the scientific community.

extinct

adj. no longer in existence

synonym: dead, obsolete, abolished

(1) **extinct** by human activity, (2) long- **extinct** volcano Many species have become **extinct** due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

trilobite

 a type of extinct arthropod that lived in the oceans of the Paleozoic Era, characterized by a three-lobed body shape and a hard exoskeleton

synonym: fossil, arthropod, ancient creature

an intact trilobite, (2) trilobite specimen
 fossilized trilobite was over 500 million years old.

endear

 to make someone loved or appreciated or to cause someone to feel fondness or affection for someone or something

synonym: fondle, cherish, love

(1) **endear** a character to young readers, (2) **endear** to everyone

The baby's smile **endeared** her to everyone who saw her.

grunge

 the state of being covered with dirty things; a type of rock music characterized by heavy use of electric guitar, bass, and drums, and often a bleak or rebellious attitude

synonym: dirt, grime, filth

(1) **grunge** wardrobe, (2) **grunge** music

The grunge fashion style became popular in the early 1990s.

anyhow

adv. anyway; regardless of what has happened or been said synonym: anyway, nonetheless

(1) **anyhow** possible, (2) **anyhow** it turns out **Anyhow**, let's change the subject because I don't want to talk about this anymore.

mecca

 a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam

synonym: cynosure, center

(1) tourist **mecca**, (2) **mecca** for surfers

The building has become a **mecca** for fans of the movie.

splendor

n. great brightness; brilliant or stunning appearance; magnificence

synonym: brightness, magnificence, grandeur

(1) **splendor** of nature, (2) **splendor** of art The **splendor** of the palace was breathtaking.

microbe

- n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause diseasesynonym: germ, microorganism, bacterium
- (1) pathogenic **microbe**, (2) **microbes** sterilizer **Microbes** thrive on the surface of the human skin.

inhale

- v. to breathe in air or a different substance, such as smoke synonym: breathe in, take in, draw in
- (1) **inhale** the smoke, (2) **inhale** the aroma He **inhaled** deeply, trying to calm down.

spore

 a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae

synonym: seed, reproductive cell, particle

(1) anthrax spore, (2) spore reproduction

Bacteria and some algae also produce **spores** as a means of survival and dispersal, and they are often found in soil, water, and other environments.

trample

 to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury

synonym: tread, stomp, crush

(1) **trample** down his feelings, (2) **trample** on the rights The plants in this garden are precious, so you must not **trample** them.

ubiquitous

adj. being or existing everywhere at oncesynonym: universal, omnipresent, everywhere

(1) **ubiquitous** computing, (2) **ubiquitous** across ecosystems

Sugar is **ubiquitous** in food.

oatmeal

 a type of cereal made from oats that have been ground or steel-cut

synonym: porridge, grits, meal

(1) oatmeal cookies, (2) oatmeal breakfast

I love starting my day with a bowl of warm **oatmeal** and fresh fruit.

petri

- n. (petri dish) a small, clear, and round dish with a lid used in laboratories, especially for growing bacteria
- (1) **petri** dish test, (2) bacteria on **petri** dishes

Glass **petri** dishes are used to culture microorganisms.

slime

- a thick, slippery substance that is usually soft and wetsynonym: muck, ooze, gunk
- (1) slime bacteria, (2) slime mold

The kids loved playing with the green **slime**, but it was a nightmare to clean up.

recreate

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

synonym: renovate, vivify, revive

(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s

She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

imaginative

adj. having or showing new and creative ideas synonym: creative, innovative, inventive

(1) capable of **imaginative** creation, (2) **imaginative** as a child

She is a hard worker but not very **imaginative**.

mycorrhiza

n. a mutually beneficial association between a fungus and the roots of a plant, in which the fungus helps the plant absorb water and nutrients, and the plant provides the fungus with sugars produced through photosynthesis

synonym: fungus, root, relationship

(1) mycorrhiza fungi, (2) orchid mycorrhiza

Some studies have shown that plants grown in soil with a high population of **mycorrhizal** fungi are more resistant to drought and disease.

depict

- v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph synonym: illustrate, describe, express
- (1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation His son had accurately **depicted** the bloom.

filament

 a thin wire or thread, especially one used to produce light in an electric bulb

synonym: fiber, thread, filament

(1) filament lamp, (2) carbon filament

The **filament** in the light bulb burned out, and now it's not working.

mycelium

- the vegetative part of a fungus, consisting of a mass of branching, thread-like hyphae
- (1) **mycelium** growth, (2) aerial **mycelium**The **mycelium** of the mushroom spread through the soil, absorbing nutrients.

symbiosis

 a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms, typically to the advantage of all

synonym: cooperation, interdependence, mutualism

(1) industrial **symbiosis**, (2) **symbiosis** establishment The **symbiosis** between the coral and the algae is an important example of mutualism.

photosynthesis

- n. the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
- (1) oxygenic **photosynthesis**, (2) process of **photosynthesis**In **photosynthesis**, plants use carbon dioxide to feed themselves.

mediate

- v. to try to bring about an agreement or understanding between people who are in conflictsynonym: arbitrate, reconcile, intervene
- (1) **mediate** allergic reaction, (2) **mediate** a negotiation The teacher had to **mediate** a disagreement between two students over a stolen pencil.

regenerative

- adj. tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue synonym: rejuvenating, restorative, healing
- (1) **regenerative** medicine, (2) **regenerative** therapy The **regenerative** properties of stem cells make them a promising area of research.

decompose

v. to break down or cause to break down over time into simpler substances or elements

synonym: break down, rot, spoil

(1) **decompose** matter, (2) **decompose** into simpler molecules

After the earthquake, many of the buildings in the city were

left in ruins and began to **decompose**.

anew

adv. in a new or different way

synonym: again, once more, fresh

(1) arm anew, (2) review anew

He decided to start **anew** and leave his old life behind.

bury

- v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
- synonym: entomb, sink, forget
- (1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

crappy

adj. of poor quality; not satisfactory
synonym: poor, unsatisfactory, inferior

(1) crappy service, (2) crappy Spanish

The food at the restaurant was **crappy** and overpriced.

fermentation

 the chemical breakdown of a substance by bacteria, yeasts, or other microorganisms, typically involving effervescence and the giving off of the heat

synonym: brewing, culturing, pickling

(1) oxidative **fermentation**, (2) **fermentation** tank
The process of **fermentation** is used to make beer, wine, and many other products.

reimagine

v. to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

synonym: re-conceptualize, re-envision, re-create

(1) **reimagine** the future, (2) **reimagine** the possibilities The company is trying to **reimagine** its business model to stay competitive.

biomaterial

- a substance, usually synthetic, that is used for medical or veterinary purposes and is designed to mimic or replace biological tissues
- (1) biomaterial development, (2) biomaterials industry

The new **biomaterials** used in implants are more durable and less likely to cause an immune response.

soundproof

v. to make a room or other enclosed space impervious to sound by reducing the transmission of sound through its walls or floor and ceiling; (adjective, of a building) not allowing sound to pass through it

synonym: insulate, muffle, dampen

(1) **soundproof** room, (2) **soundproof** material

The walls of the recording studio were **soundproofed** to eliminate outside noise.

footprint

- n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surfacesynonym: footmark, imprint, impression
- (1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon footprint.

replicate

- v. to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the resultssynonym: duplicate, imitate, reproduce
- (1) **replicate** the cell, (2) **replicate** data

 The experiment was **replicated** several times to ensure accuracy.

overfishing

 the removal of too many fish from a body of water, causing a decline in population levels and harm to the ecosystem

synonym: overharvesting, over-exploitation, depletion

(1) overfishing crisis, (2) overfishing ban

The ocean's ecosystem is being threatened by **overfishing**, causing many species to become endangered.

degrade

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others synonym: demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

byproduct

 a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else

synonym: side effect, spinoff, outgrowth

(1) toxic **byproducts**, (2) **byproduct** of technology

The **byproduct** of the energy production process is a large amount of carbon dioxide emissions.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effortsynonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) industrious worker, (2) industrious student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

self-sufficient

adj. able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others

synonym: independent, self-reliant, self-sustaining

(1) **self-sufficient** economy, (2) **self-sufficient** renewable energy

He was determined to become **self-sufficient** and not rely on anyone else.

uncover

v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden

synonym: disclose, reveal, unveil

(1) **uncover** a potential problem, (2) **uncover** the truth He continued his investigation and soon **uncovered** another crime.

mindset

 the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

synonym:

attitude, ethos, mentality

(1) flexible **mindset**, (2) the **mindset** in an education system

Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial **mindset** in each individual.

Session 2: Spelling

1.	fi	nt	lamp

2. sl__e mold

3. di___ur fossil

4. de___e his public image

5. begin to r t

6. de____se into simpler molecules

7. reg____ive medicine

8. mis_____and entirely about her

9. in___e the aroma

10. pe__i dish test

- *n.* a thin wire or thread, especially one used to produce light in an electric bulb
- n. a thick, slippery substance that is usually soft and wet
- a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
- v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

v. to break down or cause to break down over time into simpler substances or elements

adj. tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue

v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

v. to breathe in air or a different substance, such as smoke

 n. (petri dish) a small, clear, and round dish with a lid used in laboratories, especially for growing bacteria

ANSWERS: 1. filament, 2. slime, 3. dinosaur, 4. degrade, 5. rot, 6. decompose, 7. regenerative, 8. misunderstand, 9. inhale, 10. petri

ANSWERS: 11. fermentation, 12. uncover, 13. resilient, 14. anyhow, 15. mecca, 16. fungus, 17. resilient, 18. mycorrhiza, 19. degrade

20. an wit turns out adv. anyway; regardless of what has happened or been said A simple plant that grows in or near 21. blue al e water and lacks typical leaves and roots 22. de____te moon adj. deserted, barren, or lonely; causing a feeling of sadness or hopelessness 23. ex___e in popularity to burst or break open violently and ν. noisily; to cause something to burst or break open 24. re te a single country to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again adj. suitable or happening at a time that is 25. an op____ne remark suitable or convenient for a particular purpose 26. the mi t in an education system the established set of attitudes or fixed n. ideas held by someone 27. gr e wardrobe the state of being covered with dirty n. things; a type of rock music characterized by heavy use of electric guitar, bass, and drums, and often a bleak or rebellious attitude 28. me a for surfers a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam 29. sp la person's sport to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad 30. industrial sy____is a close, prolonged association between n. two or more different species of organisms, typically to the advantage of all

ANSWERS: 20. anyhow, 21. algae, 22. desolate, 23. explode, 24. recreate, 25. opportune, 26. mindset, 27. grunge, 28. mecca, 29. spoil, 30. symbiosis

ANSWERS: 31. ubiquitous, 32. anew, 33. self-sufficient, 34. anew, 35. mold, 36. overfishing, 37. soundproof, 38. explode, 39. self-sufficient, 40. spore

ANSWERS: 41. crappy, 42. recreate, 43. mediate, 44. microbe, 45. mushroom, 46. overfishing, 47. soundproof, 48. mycelium, 49. reimagine, 50. biomaterial

repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results

> to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

a type of extinct arthropod that lived in the oceans of the Paleozoic Era. characterized by a three-lobed body shape and a hard exoskeleton

a thick, slippery substance that is n. usually soft and wet

ANSWERS: 51. endear, 52. spore, 53. embarrass, 54. crappy, 55. petri, 56. opportune, 57. byproduct, 58. replicate, 59. depict, 60. trilobite, 61. slime

59. de t a feeling of isolation

60. an intact tr____te

61. sl e bacteria

ANSWERS: 62. extinct, 63. itch, 64. decompose, 65. trample, 66. byproduct, 67. bury, 68. dinosaur, 69. rot, 70. endear, 71. microbe, 72. photosynthesis

power the organism's activities.

to place a dead body in the ground, 73. b y in the earth ν. grave, or tomb 74. reg____ive therapy adj. tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue 75. my___um growth the vegetative part of a fungus, n. consisting of a mass of branching, thread-like hyphae 76. re____ne the possibilities to imagine or conceive of something in ν. a new or different way a thin wire or thread, especially one 77. carbon fi nt used to produce light in an electric bulb a type of fungus that grows on dead or 78. mu___om spores n. decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap 79. de___t a scene to illustrate someone or something in a ν. photograph 80. tr____te specimen a type of extinct arthropod that lived in n. the oceans of the Paleozoic Era, characterized by a three-lobed body shape and a hard exoskeleton 81. sp___or of nature great brightness; brilliant or stunning n. appearance; magnificence adj. deserted, barren, or lonely; causing a 82. a de te scene feeling of sadness or hopelessness the state of being covered with dirty 83. gr___e music things; a type of rock music characterized by heavy use of electric guitar, bass, and drums, and often a

ANSWERS: 73. bury, 74. regenerative, 75. mycelium, 76. reimagine, 77. filament, 78. mushroom, 79. depict, 80. trilobite, 81. splendor, 82. desolate, 83. grunge

bleak or rebellious attitude

89. fungus, 90. ubiquitous, 91. itch, 92. biomaterial

ANSWERS: 93. replicate, 94. embarrass, 95. mediate, 96. trample, 97. imaginative, 98. oatmeal, 99. imaginative, 100. backstory, 101. uncover, 102. industrious, 103. photosynthesis

power the organism's activities.

104. a casting md	n.	a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
105. bary plot	n.	the history and events that occur before the main events of a story or the history and details of a person or thing that are not widely known
106. spI the surprise	ν.	to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad
107. the fonts of an earlier civilization	n.	a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
108. ine the smoke	<i>v</i> .	to breathe in air or a different substance, such as smoke
109. indus student	adj.	hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
110. syis establishment	n.	a close, prolonged association between two or more different species of organisms, typically to the advantage of all
111. misand each other	v.	to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
112. flexible mit	n.	the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
113. ale biofuel	n.	A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots

ANSWERS: 104. mold, 105. backstory, 106. spoil, 107. footprint, 108. inhale, 109. industrious, 110. symbiosis, 111. misunderstand, 112. mindset, 113. algae

114. sp____or of art

n. great brightness; brilliant or stunning appearance; magnificence

ANSWERS: 114. splendor

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

	He was determined to become and not rely on anyone else. j. able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others
2.	He decided to start and leave his old life behind.
	Glass dishes are used to culture microorganisms.
n.	,
4.	The building has become a for fans of the movie.
n.	a city and administrative center of the Mecca Province of Saudi Arabia and the holiest city in Islam
	The company is trying to its business model to stay competitive. to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
6. n.	The kids loved playing with the green but it was a nightmare to clean up. a thick, slippery substance that is usually soft and wet
7.	The walls of the recording studio were to eliminate outside noise.
ν.	to make a room or other enclosed space impervious to sound by reducing the transmission of sound through its walls or floor and ceiling; (adjective, of a building) not allowing sound to pass through it
8.	Please refrigerate the meat, or it will
ν.	to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
	ISWERS: 1. self-sufficient, 2. anew, 3. petri, 4. mecca, 5. reimagine, 6. slime, 7. undproofed, 8. rot

32. She is a person and has always bounced back from setbacks.				
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions				
33. Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial in each individual.				
the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone				
34. The risotto was delicious, but I couldn't identify all the mushrooms in it.				
 a type of fungus that grows on dead or decaying organic matter and typically has a stalk and an umbrella-shaped cap 				
35. The food at the restaurant was and overpriced.				
adj. of poor quality; not satisfactory				
36. The teacher had to a disagreement between two students over a stolen pencil.				
v. to try to bring about an agreement or understanding between people who are in conflict				
37. The of the mushroom spread through the soil, absorbing nutrients.				
 the vegetative part of a fungus, consisting of a mass of branching, thread-like hyphae 				
38. The old building in a fiery inferno.				
v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open				
39. The in the light bulb burned out, and now it's not working.				
n. a thin wire or thread, especially one used to produce light in an electric bulb				
ANSWERS: 32. resilient, 33. mindset, 34. mushroom, 35. crappy, 36. mediate, 37. mycelium, 38. exploded, 39. filament				

48 thrive on the surface	e of the human skin.
n. a tiny living thing that can or disease	nly be seen with a microscope and that may cause
49. We choose transportation tha	t has a smaller carbon
n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or an	imal's foot left on a surface
50. The properties research.	s of stem cells make them a promising area of
adj. tending to regrow or restore	lost or injured tissue
51. The deserted island was	and uninhabited.
adj. deserted, barren, or lonely;	causing a feeling of sadness or hopelessness
52. Certain types of can be ingested.	e toxic to humans, causing severe illness if
J	des yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are do not produce their food and must consume
	produce as a means of survival and ound in soil, water, and other environments.
-	pable of developing into a new individual without roduced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae
54. After the earthquake, many of began to	the buildings in the city were left in ruins and
v. to break down or cause to b elements	reak down over time into simpler substances or
ANSWERS: 48. Microbes, 49. foc 53. spores, 54. decompose	tprint, 50. regenerative, 51. desolate, 52. fungus,

	Sugar is in f being or existing everyv			
	She the atmo			
	The plants in this garden to step heavily on some	•		
ANS	SWERS: 55. ubiquitous, 5	6. recreated, 57. tram	ıple	