

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Emma Hart: Self-assembling robots and the potential of artificial evolution | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/emma\\_hart\\_self\\_assembling\\_robots\\_and\\_the\\_potential\\_of\\_artificial\\_evolution](https://www.ted.com/talks/emma_hart_self_assembling_robots_and_the_potential_of_artificial_evolution)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### faraway

*adj.* located at a geographically distant place; remote or separated by distance; distant or not easily accessible

*synonym*: distant, remote, far-off

(1) **faraway** land, (2) **faraway** dream

The view from the **faraway** hilltop was breathtakingly beautiful.

### inhospitable

*adj.* harsh and difficult to stay in or grow; unfriendly and unwelcoming towards people who visit you

*synonym*: sterile, unfriendly, unwelcoming

(1) **inhospitable** environment, (2) in an **inhospitable** manner

He trekked across some of the most **inhospitable** mountains in the world.

### fabricate

*v.* to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone

*synonym*: manufacture, assemble, falsify

(1) **fabricate** a chemical, (2) **fabricate** an excuse

The detective discovered that the witness had **fabricated** her story about the crime.

## trench

- n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water

*synonym* : aqueduct, ditch, channel

- (1) deep-sea **trench**, (2) **trench** excavator

A **trench** was being dug alongside the road by workers.

## asteroid

- n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

*synonym* : minor planet, planetoid, rocky planetesimal

- (1) **asteroid** mining, (2) **asteroid** explorer

Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the **asteroid** belt to understand the early solar system better.

## clamber

- v.* to climb or move in an awkward, laborious, or ungraceful way, often using one's hands and feet

*synonym* : climb, scramble, crawl

- (1) **clamber** up the ladder, (2) **clamber** over a boulder

I had to **clamber** over the rocks to reach the cave.

## locomotion

- n.* the action or ability to move from one place to another

*synonym* : movement, travel, mobility

- (1) **locomotion** system, (2) **locomotion** control

The **locomotion** of the robotic arm was smooth and precise.

## situ

- adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

*synonym* : situational, contextual, circumstantial

- (1) ex- **situ** conservation, (2) in- **situ** control

Melanoma in **situ** is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.

## rainforest

- n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

- (1) **rainforest** destruction, (2) tropical **rainforest**

The destruction of the **rainforest** is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.

## **vine**

*n.* a climbing plant that produces grapes; any plant with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems

(1) a green **vine**, (2) **vine** of ore

A **vine** remains productive throughout the year.

## **amplify**

*v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness  
*synonym*: intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

## **improvisation**

*n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

*synonym*: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

## **pollination**

*n.* the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds

*synonym*: flowering, fertilization, cross-fertilization

(1) **pollination** by insect, (2) the cross- **pollination** of the arts

The **pollination** process is crucial for the growth and reproduction of many plants.

## **mimicry**

*n.* the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh

*synonym*: imitation, apery

(1) vocal **mimicry**, (2) floral **mimicry**

Some insects use **mimicry** to avoid detection by predators.

## conceive

v. to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant

*synonym*: imagine, envision, concoct

(1) **conceive** of an idea, (2) **conceive** a child

I can't **conceive** he'd want to harm us.

## imitate

v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

*synonym*: mimic, emulate, replicate

(1) **imitate** painting styles, (2) **imitate** animal sounds

He **imitated** the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

## inherit

v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

*synonym*: obtain, gain, acquire

(1) **inherit** estate, (2) **inherit** ancestral property

After his death, his sons **inherited** his business.

## trait

n. a particular feature of your nature

*synonym*: attribute, feature, quality

(1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**

Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

## blueprint

n. a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine

*synonym*: draft, prototype, sketch

(1) **blueprint** for economic reform, (2) architect's **blueprint**

A business plan is a **blueprint** for your success.

## mimic

v. to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh

*synonym*: mirror, imitate, ape

(1) **mimic** a human voice, (2) **mimic** numerous instruments

He is very popular at school because he can **mimic** all the teachers' accents.

## artifact

*n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

*synonym*: antique, relic, heirloom

(1) paleolithic **artifacts**, (2) Peruvian **artifacts**

The museum has a vast collection of Greek **artifacts**.

## exoplanet

*n.* a planet that orbits a star outside of the solar system

(1) the closest **exoplanet** to Earth, (2) **exoplanet** mission

The **exoplanet** Kepler-186f is located 500 light-years from Earth and is believed to be habitable.

## pragmatic

*adj.* practical rather than idealistic

*synonym*: practical, realistic, down-to-earth

(1) **pragmatic** approach, (2) **pragmatic** politics

He was a **pragmatic** leader who made decisions based on what was practical rather than ideal.

## rethink

*v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

*synonym*: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

## robotic

*adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

*synonym*: automated, mechanical, laborsaving

(1) **robotic** arm, (2) **robotic** guide operation

The surgeon removed the tumor using **robotic** video assistance.

## footprint

*n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

*synonym*: footmark, imprint, impression

(1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier

civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon **footprint**.

## **recycle**

*v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

*synonym*: reclaim, reuse, reprocess

(1) **recycle** the cardboard boxes, (2) **recycle** milk packaging into new paper

We largely **recycle** the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.

## **unfettered**

*adj.* not constrained or restricted by limitations or rules; free, unrestricted, unbridled

*synonym*: unrestricted, free, unchained

(1) **unfettered** access, (2) **unfettered** capitalism

The athlete felt **unfettered** by her recent injury and performed with ease.

## Session 2: Spelling

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|--|--|
| 1. im_____e animal sounds                    | <i>v.</i> to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something   |
| 2. tropical rai_____st                       | <i>n.</i> a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall  |
| 3. the cross-pol_____on of the arts          | <i>n.</i> the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds |
| 4. in_____t ancestral property               | <i>v.</i> to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died   |
| 5. fo_____nts in the snow                    | <i>n.</i> a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface   |
| 6. ex-s__u conservation                      | <i>adj.</i> short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance   |
| 7. am_____y the effect                       | <i>v.</i> to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness   |
| 8. ro_____c guide operation                  | <i>adj.</i> of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots                                |
| 9. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization | <i>n.</i> a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface   |

ANSWERS: 1. imitate, 2. rainforest, 3. pollination, 4. inherit, 5. footprint, 6. situ, 7. amplify, 8. robotic, 9. footprint

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|-----------------------------|---|
| 10. deep-sea tr___h         | <i>n.</i> a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water |
| 11. cl_____r over a boulder | <i>v.</i> to climb or move in an awkward, laborious, or ungraceful way, often using one's hands and feet  |
| 12. Peruvian ar_____cts     | <i>n.</i> a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest   |
| 13. tr___h excavator        | <i>n.</i> a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water |
| 14. personality tr__ts      | <i>n.</i> a particular feature of your nature   |
| 15. in_____t estate         | <i>v.</i> to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died  |
| 16. loc_____on system       | <i>n.</i> the action or ability to move from one place to another   |
| 17. in-s__u control         | <i>adj.</i> short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance  |
| 18. ro_____c arm            | <i>adj.</i> of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots                 |
| 19. as_____id explorer      | <i>n.</i> a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter   |

ANSWERS: 10. trench, 11. clamber, 12. artifact, 13. trench, 14. trait, 15. inherit, 16. locomotion, 17. situ, 18. robotic, 19. asteroid



20. v__e of ore	<i>n.</i> a climbing plant that produces grapes; any plant with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems
21. co____ve a child	<i>v.</i> to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
22. re____k the role of the manager	<i>v.</i> to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
23. fa_____te an excuse	<i>v.</i> to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone
24. inh_____ble environment	<i>adj.</i> harsh and difficult to stay in or grow; unfriendly and unwelcoming towards people who visit you
25. vocal mi____y	<i>n.</i> the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh
26. mi__c a human voice	<i>v.</i> to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh
27. bl_____nt for economic reform	<i>n.</i> a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine
28. unf_____ed capitalism	<i>adj.</i> not constrained or restricted by limitations or rules; free, unrestricted, unbridled
29. ex_____et mission	<i>n.</i> a planet that orbits a star outside of the solar system
30. loc_____on control	<i>n.</i> the action or ability to move from one place to another

ANSWERS: 20. vine, 21. conceive, 22. rethink, 23. fabricate, 24. inhospitable, 25. mimicry, 26. mimic, 27. blueprint, 28. unfettered, 29. exoplanet, 30. locomotion

31. pr_____ic approach	<i>adj.</i> practical rather than idealistic
32. co_____ve of an idea	<i>v.</i> to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
33. a green v__e	<i>n.</i> a climbing plant that produces grapes; any plant with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems
34. pr_____ic politics	<i>adj.</i> practical rather than idealistic
35. jazz imp_____ion	<i>n.</i> the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
36. mi__c numerous instruments	<i>v.</i> to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh
37. in an inh_____ble manner	<i>adj.</i> harsh and difficult to stay in or grow; unfriendly and unwelcoming towards people who visit you
38. rai_____st destruction	<i>n.</i> a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
39. fa_____y land	<i>adj.</i> located at a geographically distant place; remote or separated by distance; distant or not easily accessible
40. cl_____r up the ladder	<i>v.</i> to climb or move in an awkward, laborious, or ungraceful way, often using one's hands and feet
41. pol_____on by insect	<i>n.</i> the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds

ANSWERS: 31. pragmatic, 32. conceive, 33. vine, 34. pragmatic, 35. improvisation, 36. mimic, 37. inhospitable, 38. rainforest, 39. faraway, 40. clamber, 41. pollination

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|--|---|
| 42. re_____e the cardboard boxes           | <i>v.</i> to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again  |
| 43. im_____e painting styles               | <i>v.</i> to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something  |
| 44. unf_____ed access                      | <i>adj.</i> not constrained or restricted by limitations or rules; free, unrestricted, unbridled  |
| 45. paleolithic ar_____cts                 | <i>n.</i> a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest   |
| 46. floral mi_____y                        | <i>n.</i> the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh   |
| 47. fa_____y dream                         | <i>adj.</i> located at a geographically distant place; remote or separated by distance; distant or not easily accessible  |
| 48. imp_____ion on stage                   | <i>n.</i> the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation  |
| 49. fa_____te a chemical                   | <i>v.</i> to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone |
| 50. architect's bl_____nt                  | <i>n.</i> a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine   |
| 51. re_____e milk packaging into new paper | <i>v.</i> to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again  |

ANSWERS: 42. recycle, 43. imitate, 44. unfettered, 45. artifact, 46. mimicry, 47. faraway, 48. improvisation, 49. fabricate, 50. blueprint, 51. recycle

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 52. as____id mining               | <i>n.</i> a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter |
| 53. re____k a marketing plan      | <i>v.</i> to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it                         |
| 54. the closest ex____et to Earth | <i>n.</i> a planet that orbits a star outside of the solar system                               |
| 55. am____y a signal              | <i>v.</i> to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness                                |
| 56. chemical tr__t                | <i>n.</i> a particular feature of your nature   |

ANSWERS: 52. asteroid, 53. rethink, 54. exoplanet, 55. amplify, 56. trait

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. You might need to \_\_\_\_\_ this point.  
*v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
2. I can't \_\_\_\_\_ he'd want to harm us.  
*v.* to have or develop an idea, a plan, etc. in mind; to become pregnant
3. Multiple genes may influence behavioral \_\_\_\_\_ concurrently.  
*n.* a particular feature of your nature
4. I had to \_\_\_\_\_ over the rocks to reach the cave.  
*v.* to climb or move in an awkward, laborious, or ungraceful way, often using one's hands and feet
5. The detective discovered that the witness had \_\_\_\_\_ her story about the crime.  
*v.* to make something, especially by assembling parts or constructing it from raw materials; to invent and present something false as true or real to deceive someone
6. After his death, his sons \_\_\_\_\_ his business.  
*v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
7. We have to \_\_\_\_\_ our company's product lineup for further growth.  
*v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the robotic arm was smooth and precise.  
*n.* the action or ability to move from one place to another

ANSWERS: 1. amplify, 2. conceive, 3. traits, 4. clamber, 5. fabricated, 6. inherited, 7. rethink, 8. locomotion

9. The athlete felt \_\_\_\_\_ by her recent injury and performed with ease.  
*adj.* not constrained or restricted by limitations or rules; free, unrestricted, unbridled
10. He created a beautiful piece of music using only \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
11. A \_\_\_\_\_ remains productive throughout the year.  
*n.* a climbing plant that produces grapes; any plant with a growth habit of trailing or climbing stems
12. He was a \_\_\_\_\_ leader who made decisions based on what was practical rather than ideal.  
*adj.* practical rather than idealistic
13. We largely \_\_\_\_\_ the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.  
*v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
14. A business plan is a \_\_\_\_\_ for your success.  
*n.* a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine
15. The destruction of the \_\_\_\_\_ is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.  
*n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
16. The surgeon removed the tumor using \_\_\_\_\_ video assistance.  
*adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

ANSWERS: 9. unfettered, 10. improvisation, 11. vine, 12. pragmatic, 13. recycle, 14. blueprint, 15. rainforest, 16. robotic

17. A \_\_\_\_\_ was being dug alongside the road by workers.

- n.* a long, deep ditch made in the ground, usually parallel to a plate boundary and marking a subduction zone; a long ditch built in the ground for carrying away water

18. Melanoma in \_\_\_\_\_ is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.

- adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

19. The \_\_\_\_\_ Kepler-186f is located 500 light-years from Earth and is believed to be habitable.

- n.* a planet that orbits a star outside of the solar system

20. The view from the \_\_\_\_\_ hilltop was breathtakingly beautiful.

- adj.* located at a geographically distant place; remote or separated by distance; distant or not easily accessible

21. The museum has a vast collection of Greek \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

22. Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the \_\_\_\_\_ belt to understand the early solar system better.

- n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

23. Some insects use \_\_\_\_\_ to avoid detection by predators.

- n.* the act or skill of copying the sounds or behavior of a particular person or animal, often to make people laugh

ANSWERS: 17. trench, 18. situ, 19. exoplanet, 20. faraway, 21. artifacts, 22. asteroid, 23. mimicry

24. He \_\_\_\_\_ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

*v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

25. He is very popular at school because he can \_\_\_\_\_ all the teachers' accents.

*v.* to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh

26. The \_\_\_\_\_ process is crucial for the growth and reproduction of many plants.

*n.* the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds

27. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

28. He trekked across some of the most \_\_\_\_\_ mountains in the world.

*adj.* harsh and difficult to stay in or grow; unfriendly and unwelcoming towards people who visit you

ANSWERS: 24. imitated, 25. mimic, 26. pollination, 27. footprint, 28. inhospitable