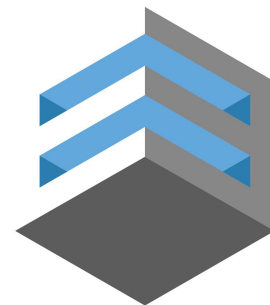


# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Karen Eber: How your brain responds to stories --*

*and why they're crucial for leaders | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/karen\\_eber\\_how\\_your\\_brain\\_responds\\_to\\_stories\\_and\\_why\\_they\\_re\\_crucial\\_for\\_leaders](https://www.ted.com/talks/karen_eber_how_your_brain_responds_to_stories_and_why_they_re_crucial_for_leaders)

### 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

### creditor

*n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

(1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor**

I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

### vow

*v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn

*synonym*: promise, pledge, swear

(1) **vow** allegiance to the new king, (2) **vow** never to give up

They **vowed** to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.

### resonate

*v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound

*synonym*: echo, reverberate, resound

(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency

The sound **resonates** well in this theater.

### storytelling

*n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories

*synonym*: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

## ballad

*n.* a narrative or lyrical poem that tells a story, often with a simple, repetitive structure and a musical quality; a song in this style

*synonym*: folk song, jingle, ditty

(1) traditional **ballad**, (2) Irish **ballad**

The singer's **ballad** brought the audience to tears.

## neurological

*adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

*synonym*: nervous, neural, brain-related

(1) fever with **neurological** signs, (2) **neurological** symptoms

The patient was diagnosed with a **neurological** disorder affecting their motor skills.

## lobe

*n.* a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver

*synonym*: part, section, division

(1) **lobe** of the liver, (2) frontal **lobe**

The lungs are divided into five **lobes**.

## thud

*n.* a dull, heavy sound made when a heavy object falls or strikes a surface, often with a low frequency and resonance

*synonym*: bang, collision, crash

(1) **thud** of footsteps, (2) a distant **thud**

The loud **thud** of the door closing echoed through the empty hallway.

## occiput

*n.* the back part of the head or skull

*synonym*: back of the head, skull base

(1) **occiput** muscles, (2) **occiput** pain

The massage therapist focused on the client's **occiput** region

to relieve tension in the neck.

## crunch

*n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation

*synonym*: crushing, snapping, crisis

(1) financial **crunch**, (2) a gas **crunch**

The **crunch** of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.

## flake

*n.* a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent

*synonym*: chip, bit, shred

(1) **flakes** of snow, (2) **flake** graphite

She found a paint **flake** on the wall and realized it was time to repaint the room.

## empathy

*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

*synonym*: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

**Empathy** is also necessary to understand history.

## oxytocin

*n.* a hormone secreted by the pituitary which stimulates contractions of the uterus during labor (= the process of pushing out a baby) and the ejection of milk

(1) **oxytocin-degrading** enzyme, (2) **oxytocin** receptor

Women may increase **oxytocin** production through romantic love.

## trustworthy

*adj.* reliable and dependable

*synonym*: reliable, dependable, honest

(1) **trustworthy** ally, (2) **trustworthy** source

People tend to believe **trustworthy** friends with their secrets.

## misconception

*n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis

*synonym*: fallacy, incomprehension, misunderstanding

(1) dispel the **misconception**, (2) commonly held **misconception**

There are numerous **misconceptions** about food and health.

## **floss**

*n.* a thin thread or cord used to clean the spaces between the teeth

*synonym*: thread, yarn, string

(1) candy **floss**, (2) dental **floss**

Be sure to use a clean section of **floss** for each tooth to avoid spreading bacteria.

## **neuroscience**

*n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

## **amygdala**

*n.* one of two parts of the almond-shaped neural structure that are linked to emotions, especially fear and pleasure, memory, and the sense of smell

(1) the decline in **amygdala** activity, (2) **amygdala** damage

The **amygdala** has been associated with memories of past emotional events.

## **epicenter**

*n.* the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake

*synonym*: ground zero, focus, center

(1) the **epicenter** of the sports world, (2) **epicenter** magnitude

The **epicenter** of the earthquake was located deep beneath the earth's surface.

## **subconscious**

*adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

*synonym*: unconscious, latent, hidden

(1) **subconscious** influence, (2) **subconscious** behavior

The **subconscious** mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.

## incapable

*adj.* unable to do, control, or achieve something

*synonym*: unable, incompetent, unskilled

(1) drunk and **incapable**, (2) **incapable** of being resisted

He seems **incapable** of understanding what she says.

## takeaway

*n.* a message or conclusion that can be taken away from a situation or piece of information

*synonym*: conclusion, message, insight

(1) **takeaway** pizza, (2) **takeaway** message

The main **takeaway** from the meeting was the need for better communication.

## unseen

*adj.* not seen or noticed; not perceived

*synonym*: invisible, hidden, undercover

(1) **unseen** danger, (2) an **unseen** force

The consequences of the pandemic remain **unseen** as scientists continue to research the virus.

## discourage

*v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

*synonym*: dishearten, depress, demoralize

(1) **discourage** customers, (2) **discourage** bacterial growth

His parents tried to **discourage** him from becoming an artist.

## gymnast

*n.* a person who performs physical exercises or feats of agility, strength, balance, and coordination, often for sport or entertainment

*synonym*: acrobat, tumbler, contortionist

(1) talented **gymnast**, (2) female **gymnast**

The Olympic **gymnast** performed a flawless routine on the balance beam and received a perfect ten score.

## terrify

*v.* to frighten someone very much

*synonym*: unnerve, scare, horrify

(1) **terrify** people, (2) the threats **terrify** him

It would be best not to **terrify** your associates into doing complex tasks.

## aspiration

*n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

*synonym*: ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs

He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

## paralyze

*v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel

*synonym*: immobilize, disable, numb

(1) **paralyze** a city, (2) **paralyze** a person

The venom from the snake bite **paralyzed** his arm.

## stigma

*n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

*synonym*: mark, blemish, disgrace

(1) social **stigma**, (2) **stigma** against obesity

The mental health **stigma** often prevents people from seeking treatment.

## overlook

*v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

*synonym*: disregard, look down, supervise

(1) **overlook** a street, (2) **overlook** that fact

We cannot **overlook** an opportunity for great success.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. oc____t muscles                     | <i>n.</i> the back part of the head or skull  |
| 2. te____y people                      | <i>v.</i> to frighten someone very much   |
| 3. a gas cr____h                       | <i>n.</i> a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation                        |
| 4. the ep____er of the sports world    | <i>n.</i> the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake  |
| 5. a theoretical concept in neu____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system                           |
| 6. un____n danger                      | <i>adj.</i> not seen or noticed; not perceived  |
| 7. ta____ay message                    | <i>n.</i> a message or conclusion that can be taken away from a situation or piece of information                                     |
| 8. drunk and in____le                  | <i>adj.</i> unable to do, control, or achieve something   |
| 9. fl__es of snow                      | <i>n.</i> a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent |
| 10. ov____ok that fact                 | <i>v.</i> to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above  |
| 11. ep____er magnitude                 | <i>n.</i> the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake  |

ANSWERS: 1. occiput, 2. terrify, 3. crunch, 4. epicenter, 5. neuroscience, 6. unseen, 7. takeaway, 8. incapable, 9. flake, 10. overlook, 11. epicenter

12. social st___a	<i>n.</i> a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
13. st___a against obesity	<i>n.</i> a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
14. asp_____on into the lungs	<i>n.</i> a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
15. the threats te_____y him	<i>v.</i> to frighten someone very much
16. neu_____cal symptoms	<i>adj.</i> of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
17. courtroom sto_____ing	<i>n.</i> the act or art of narrating or writing stories
18. female gy_____t	<i>n.</i> a person who performs physical exercises or feats of agility, strength, balance, and coordination, often for sport or entertainment
19. ov_____ok a street	<i>v.</i> to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
20. talented gy_____t	<i>n.</i> a person who performs physical exercises or feats of agility, strength, balance, and coordination, often for sport or entertainment
21. the cr_____or's claims	<i>n.</i> a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
22. ta_____ay pizza	<i>n.</i> a message or conclusion that can be taken away from a situation or piece of information

ANSWERS: 12. stigma, 13. stigma, 14. aspiration, 15. terrify, 16. neurological, 17. storytelling, 18. gymnast, 19. overlook, 20. gymnast, 21. creditor, 22. takeaway



23. pa____ze a person	<i>v.</i> to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
24. em____y for patients	<i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
25. ox____in receptor	<i>n.</i> a hormone secreted by the pituitary which stimulates contractions of the uterus during labor (= the process of pushing out a baby) and the ejection of milk
26. oc____t pain	<i>n.</i> the back part of the head or skull
27. financial cr____h	<i>n.</i> a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
28. ox____in-degrading enzyme	<i>n.</i> a hormone secreted by the pituitary which stimulates contractions of the uterus during labor (= the process of pushing out a baby) and the ejection of milk
29. dispel the mis____ion	<i>n.</i> a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis
30. bankrupt cr____or	<i>n.</i> a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
31. sub____ous behavior	<i>adj.</i> relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
32. full of em____y	<i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

ANSWERS: 23. paralyze, 24. empathy, 25. oxytocin, 26. occiput, 27. crunch, 28. oxytocin, 29. misconception, 30. creditor, 31. subconscious, 32. empathy

33. candy fl__s	<i>n.</i> a thin thread or cord used to clean the spaces between the teeth
34. pa____ze a city	<i>v.</i> to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
35. l__e of the liver	<i>n.</i> a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver
36. tru____hy ally	<i>adj.</i> reliable and dependable
37. no asp____on for fame	<i>n.</i> a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
38. dental fl__s	<i>n.</i> a thin thread or cord used to clean the spaces between the teeth
39. commonly held mis____ion	<i>n.</i> a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis
40. Irish ba____d	<i>n.</i> a narrative or lyrical poem that tells a story, often with a simple, repetitive structure and a musical quality; a song in this style
41. v_w allegiance to the new king	<i>v.</i> to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
42. fever with neu____cal signs	<i>adj.</i> of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
43. traditional ba____d	<i>n.</i> a narrative or lyrical poem that tells a story, often with a simple, repetitive structure and a musical quality; a song in this style
44. tru____hy source	<i>adj.</i> reliable and dependable
45. a distant t__d	<i>n.</i> a dull, heavy sound made when a heavy object falls or strikes a surface, often with a low frequency and resonance

ANSWERS: 33. floss, 34. paralyze, 35. lobe, 36. trustworthy, 37. aspiration, 38. floss, 39. misconception, 40. ballad, 41. vow, 42. neurological, 43. ballad, 44. trustworthy, 45. thud

46. the branch of neu_____nce	<i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
47. t__d of footsteps	<i>n.</i> a dull, heavy sound made when a heavy object falls or strikes a surface, often with a low frequency and resonance
48. dis_____ge bacterial growth	<i>v.</i> to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
49. deeply re_____te with the consumers	<i>v.</i> to be filled with a deep echoing sound
50. sub_____ous influence	<i>adj.</i> relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
51. re_____te in the same frequency	<i>v.</i> to be filled with a deep echoing sound
52. sto_____ing performance	<i>n.</i> the act or art of narrating or writing stories
53. in_____le of being resisted	<i>adj.</i> unable to do, control, or achieve something
54. fl__e graphite	<i>n.</i> a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent
55. am_____la damage	<i>n.</i> one of two parts of the almond-shaped neural structure that are linked to emotions, especially fear and pleasure, memory, and the sense of smell

ANSWERS: 46. neuroscience, 47. thud, 48. discourage, 49. resonate, 50. subconscious, 51. resonate, 52. storytelling, 53. incapable, 54. flake, 55. amygdala

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 56. the decline in am____la activity | <i>n.</i> one of two parts of the almond-shaped neural structure that are linked to emotions, especially fear and pleasure, memory, and the sense of smell |
| 57. frontal l__e                     | <i>n.</i> a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver  |
| 58. v_w never to give up             | <i>v.</i> to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn   |
| 59. dis_____ge customers             | <i>v.</i> to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something   |
| 60. an un____n force                 | <i>adj.</i> not seen or noticed; not perceived   |

ANSWERS: 56. amygdala, 57. lobe, 58. vow, 59. discourage, 60. unseen

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is also necessary to understand history.  
*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
2. He seems \_\_\_\_\_ of understanding what she says.  
*adj.* unable to do, control, or achieve something
3. The lungs are divided into five \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a rounded projection or division, especially of the brain, lung, or liver
4. People tend to believe \_\_\_\_\_ friends with their secrets.  
*adj.* reliable and dependable
5. Be sure to use a clean section of \_\_\_\_\_ for each tooth to avoid spreading bacteria.  
*n.* a thin thread or cord used to clean the spaces between the teeth
6. The patient was diagnosed with a \_\_\_\_\_ disorder affecting their motor skills.  
*adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the earthquake was located deep beneath the earth's surface.  
*n.* the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake
8. He has an \_\_\_\_\_ to become a doctor.  
*n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

ANSWERS: 1. Empathy, 2. incapable, 3. lobes, 4. trustworthy, 5. floss, 6. neurological, 7. epicenter, 8. aspiration

9. They \_\_\_\_\_ to love and support each other for the rest of their lives.  
*v.* to make a promise or commitment, usually formal and solemn
10. It would be best not to \_\_\_\_\_ your associates into doing complex tasks.  
*v.* to frighten someone very much
11. The massage therapist focused on the client's \_\_\_\_\_ region to relieve tension in the neck.  
*n.* the back part of the head or skull
12. The \_\_\_\_\_ has been associated with memories of past emotional events.  
*n.* one of two parts of the almond-shaped neural structure that are linked to emotions, especially fear and pleasure, memory, and the sense of smell
13. The sound \_\_\_\_\_ well in this theater.  
*v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
14. We cannot \_\_\_\_\_ an opportunity for great success.  
*v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
15. I asked the lawyer to initiate \_\_\_\_\_ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.  
*n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
16. There are numerous \_\_\_\_\_ about food and health.  
*n.* a belief or an idea that is wrong because it has been based on faulty thinking, understanding, or hypothesis
17. The loud \_\_\_\_\_ of the door closing echoed through the empty hallway.  
*n.* a dull, heavy sound made when a heavy object falls or strikes a surface, often with a low frequency and resonance

ANSWERS: 9. vowed, 10. terrify, 11. occiput, 12. amygdala, 13. resonates, 14. overlook, 15. creditor, 16. misconceptions, 17. thud

18. His parents tried to \_\_\_\_\_ him from becoming an artist.  
*v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
19. Women may increase \_\_\_\_\_ production through romantic love.  
*n.* a hormone secreted by the pituitary which stimulates contractions of the uterus during labor (= the process of pushing out a baby) and the ejection of milk
20. The venom from the snake bite \_\_\_\_\_ his arm.  
*v.* to cause a person or part of the body to become unable to move or feel
21. The \_\_\_\_\_ mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.  
*adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
22. She found a paint \_\_\_\_\_ on the wall and realized it was time to repaint the room.  
*n.* a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent
23. The consequences of the pandemic remain \_\_\_\_\_ as scientists continue to research the virus.  
*adj.* not seen or noticed; not perceived
24. The main \_\_\_\_\_ from the meeting was the need for better communication.  
*n.* a message or conclusion that can be taken away from a situation or piece of information
25. She was skilled in \_\_\_\_\_ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.  
*n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 18. discourage, 19. oxytocin, 20. paralyzed, 21. subconscious, 22. flake, 23. unseen, 24. takeaway, 25. storytelling

26. The singer's \_\_\_\_\_ brought the audience to tears.

- n.* a narrative or lyrical poem that tells a story, often with a simple, repetitive structure and a musical quality; a song in this style

27. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

28. The mental health \_\_\_\_\_ often prevents people from seeking treatment.

- n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

29. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.

- n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation

30. The Olympic \_\_\_\_\_ performed a flawless routine on the balance beam and received a perfect ten score.

- n.* a person who performs physical exercises or feats of agility, strength, balance, and coordination, often for sport or entertainment

ANSWERS: 26. ballad, 27. neuroscience, 28. stigma, 29. crunch, 30. gymnast