Englist.me

Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Christina Agapakis: What happens when biology becomes technology? | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/christina_agapakis_what_h

appens_when_biology_becomes_technology



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

briefcase

 a flat, rectangular container, typically made of leather or other sturdy material, used for carrying documents, books, or other important items

synonym: portfolio, attaché, case

(1) briefcase handle, (2) leather briefcase

The detective found crucial evidence inside the suspect's **briefcase**.

daisy

 a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead

synonym: marguerite, bellis, chrysanthemum

(1) daisy chain, (2) lawn daisy

She picked a blue **daisy** from the meadow and placed it in her hair.

embroider

v. to decorate or embellish a fabric or piece of clothing with ornamental or colorful designs using needlework; to add fictitious or exaggerated details to a story or account

synonym: decorate, adorn, embellish

(1) **embroider** a dress, (2) **embroider** a cushion She chose to **embroider** her initials onto the scarf as a personal touch.

polo

- a sport played on horseback in which two teams try to hit a ball through a goal using long-handled mallets
- (1) **polo** shirt, (2) **polo** championship

I watched a thrilling **polo** match at the club over the weekend.

handcuff

n. a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process

synonym: shackle, bind, restraint

(1) **handcuff** his wrists, (2) break free from **handcuffs** The police officer put **handcuffs** on the suspect before placing them in the squad car.

multicolored

adj. having many colors

synonym: variegated, multihued, multicoloured

(1) **multicolored** lights, (2) **multicolored** dress The **multicolored** parrot was a beautiful sight.

coli

- a bacterium of the genus Escherichia that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry
- (1) E. **coli** bacteria strain, (2) **coli** cells

 The study of Escherichia **coli** has led to important advancements in areas such as antibiotic resistance, gut microbiome, and synthetic biology.

arsenic

 a poisonous chemical element that occurs naturally in some rocks and minerals and is sometimes used in pesticides and wood preservatives

synonym: poison, toxin

(1) **arsenic** poisoning, (2) **arsenic** contamination Exposure to **arsenic** in drinking water can cause serious health problems.

probiotic

n. a substance, typically a live bacterium, that is ingested to provide health benefits, particularly in aiding digestion or strengthening the immune system

synonym: probiotic bacteria, beneficial bacteria, microflora

(1) **probiotic** supplement, (2) **probiotic** yogurt **Probiotic-rich** foods, such as kefir and sauerkraut, can improve digestive health.

oxymoron

 a figure of speech that combines contradictory terms, such as "jumbo shrimp" or "deafening silence"

synonym: contradiction in terms, paradox, self-contradiction

- (1) **oxymoron** phrase, (2) literary **oxymoron**
- "Awfully good" is an **oxymoron** that can be used to describe something that's both bad and good simultaneously.

poke

- v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger synonym: prod, jab, push
- (1) **poke** around the desk, (2) **poke** a fire They **poked** fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.

sudoku

n. a logic-based, combinatorial number-placement puzzle that typically consists of a 9x9 grid divided into nine 3x3 sub-grids and requires the solver to fill in each empty square with a number from 1-9, with the constraint that no number can appear more than once in a row, column, or sub-grid

synonym: number puzzle, logic game, brain teaser

(1) the difficulty level of **sudoku**, (2) solve a **sudoku** I enjoy solving **sudoku** puzzles in my free time.

expansive

adj. large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk

synonym: large, extensive, vast

(1) with an **expansive** spirit, (2) **expansive** ocean views The company has an **expansive** network of offices and locations around the world.

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.

squishy

adj. soft and yielding to the touch; easily deformedsynonym: soft, spongy, mushy

(1) **squishy** texture, (2) a **squishy** story
The **squishy** foam ball is perfect for squeezing to relieve stress.

visceral

 adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses

synonym: instinctive, intuitive, gut

(1) visceral organ, (2) visceral fear

After watching the horror movie, she had a **visceral** reaction and couldn't sleep all night.

unforgettable

adj. impossible to forget

synonym: indelible, ineffable, memorable

(1) have an **unforgettable** night, (2) **unforgettable** moment The dinner we had at the five-star restaurant was an **unforgettable** culinary experience.

microbe

a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

synonym: germ, microorganism, bacterium

(1) pathogenic **microbe**, (2) **microbes** sterilizer **Microbes** thrive on the surface of the human skin.

swab

 a small piece of soft material used by a doctor, nurse, etc., for cleaning a cut or taking a sample from somebody's body for testing; (verb) apply, usually a liquid, to a surface

synonym: mop, scrub, daub

(1) alcohol **swab**, (2) cotton **swab**He took a **swab** of his ear.

transcend

- v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something synonym: surpass, exceed, overcome
- (1) **transcend** boundaries, (2) **transcend** limits

 The music **transcended** cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

tangle

- n. a confused mass of something twisted togethersynonym: knot, snarl, entanglement
- (1) in a tangle, (2) tangle wiresThe cords behind my computer were a tangled mess.

reconsider

- v. to think about a decision or opinion again to synonym: rethink, review, revisit
- (1) **reconsider** the determination, (2) **reconsider** my transfer

He humbly reconsidered his conduct.

coronavirus

n. a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2

synonym: covid

(1) **coronavirus** antibody test kit, (2) **coronavirus** bankruptcy

Considering the situation of **coronavirus**, organized stopped this year's beer festival.

settler

 a person who moved with a group of others to live in a different country or area

synonym: frontiersperson, immigrant, emigrant

(1) new settlers, (2) settlers on some foreign shoreA large proportion of railway workers in settler colonies were

white.

roam

 to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander

synonym: wander, ramble, meander

(1) **roam** freely, (2) **roam** the countryside I love to **roam** around the city and discover new neighborhoods.

hillside

 the sloping side of a hill or mountain; a landscape feature characterized by a natural gradient or incline

synonym: slope, incline

(1) **hillside** landscape, (2) **hillside** vineyard

The hikers were stunned by the beautiful wildflowers on the **hillside**.

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.

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.

herbarium

 a collection of preserved plant specimens, typically identified and arranged in a systematic manner for scientific study and reference

synonym: plant collection, botanical garden

(1) digital **herbarium** database, (2) **herbarium** specimens The botanist added the new fern specimen to the **herbarium** collection.

sliver

n. a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something

synonym: splinter, shard, fragment

(1) sliver of wood, (2) sliver of metal

I had to be careful not to step on a **sliver** of glass on the floor.

synthesize

v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound

synonym: incorporate, amalgamate

(1) **synthesize** molecules, (2) **synthesize** information The spider can **synthesize** multiple different silk proteins.

reconstruct

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

synonym: rebuild, revamp, reorganize

(1) **reconstruct** an image, (2) **reconstruct** the original text They've decided to **reconstruct** a ruined castle.

entangle

 to become twisted or knotted together, especially in a way that makes it difficult to separate them; to involve in something complicated or difficult to escape

synonym: ensnare, entrap, involve

(1) **entangle** in wires, (2) emotionally **entangle**The vines of the plant **entangled** themselves around the trellis.

interconnect

v. to connect similar things

synonym: interlink, complect, annex

(1) directly **interconnect** with those systems, (2) human activities **interconnect** with the environment

Our system can now interconnect with other databases.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ta___e wires

2. sl___r of wood

ha ff his wrists

4. vi___al fear

5. emotionally en____le

6. E. c__i bacteria strain

- n. a confused mass of something twisted together
- n. a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something
- n. a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process
- adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
- v. to become twisted or knotted together, especially in a way that makes it difficult to separate them; to involve in something complicated or difficult to escape
- a bacterium of the genus Escherichia that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry

ANSWERS: 1. tangle, 2. sliver, 3. handcuff, 4. visceral, 5. entangle, 6. coli

7.	trnd limits	<i>v</i> .	to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
8.	mulred dress	adj.	having many colors
9.	regive therapy	adj.	tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue
10.	arc contamination	n.	a poisonous chemical element that occurs naturally in some rocks and minerals and is sometimes used in pesticides and wood preservatives
11.	po championship	n.	a sport played on horseback in which two teams try to hit a ball through a goa using long-handled mallets
12.	rm the countryside	<i>v</i> .	to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
13.	pric yogurt	n.	a substance, typically a live bacterium, that is ingested to provide health benefits, particularly in aiding digestion or strengthening the immune system
14.	p_o shirt	n.	a sport played on horseback in which two teams try to hit a ball through a goa using long-handled mallets
15.	with an exve spirit	adj.	large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk
16.	digital heum database	n.	a collection of preserved plant specimens, typically identified and arranged in a systematic manner for scientific study and reference
17.	brse handle	n.	a flat, rectangular container, typically made of leather or other sturdy material used for carrying documents, books, or other important items

ANSWERS: 7. transcend, 8. multicolored, 9. regenerative, 10. arsenic, 11. polo, 12. roam, 13. probiotic, 14. polo, 15. expansive, 16. herbarium, 17. briefcase

- 19. c i cells 20. unf_____ble moment 21. he____um specimens 22. tr___e on the rights 23. pathogenic mi___e 24. cotton s b
 - 25. em er a dress
 - 26. sl r of metal

- pink-and-white flowerhead
- a bacterium of the genus Escherichia n. that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry
- adj. impossible to forget
- a collection of preserved plant n. specimens, typically identified and arranged in a systematic manner for scientific study and reference
- to step heavily on something or ν. someone, causing damage or injury
- a tiny living thing that can only be seen n. with a microscope and that may cause disease
- a small piece of soft material used by a doctor, nurse, etc., for cleaning a cut or taking a sample from somebody's body for testing; (verb) apply, usually a liquid, to a surface
- to decorate or embellish a fabric or piece of clothing with ornamental or colorful designs using needlework; to add fictitious or exaggerated details to a story or account
- a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something

ANSWERS: 18. daisy, 19. coli, 20. unforgettable, 21. herbarium, 22. trample, 23. microbe, 24. swab, 25. embroider, 26. sliver

27.	vial organ
28.	pe a fire
29.	regive medicine
30.	arc poisoning
31.	a hard and rent steel
32.	pric supplement
33.	synze molecules
34.	ext by human activity
35.	the difficulty level of suu

- adj. relating to or affecting the internal organs; instinctive or emotional rather than rational; characterized by deep-seated emotional reactions or responses
- v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
- adj. tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue
- a poisonous chemical element that occurs naturally in some rocks and minerals and is sometimes used in pesticides and wood preservatives
- adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
- a substance, typically a live bacterium, that is ingested to provide health benefits, particularly in aiding digestion or strengthening the immune system
- v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
- adj. no longer in existence
- n. a logic-based, combinatorial number-placement puzzle that typically consists of a 9x9 grid divided into nine 3x3 sub-grids and requires the solver to fill in each empty square with a number from 1-9, with the constraint that no number can appear more than once in a row, column, or sub-grid

ANSWERS: 27. visceral, 28. poke, 29. regenerative, 30. arsenic, 31. resilient, 32. probiotic, 33. synthesize, 34. extinct, 35. sudoku

ANSWERS: 36. oxymoron, 37. daisy, 38. reconsider, 39. interconnect, 40. handcuff, 41. reconstruct, 42. squishy, 43. tangle, 44. swab

to a surface

ANSWERS: 45. multicolored, 46. briefcase, 47. transcend, 48. unforgettable, 49. poke, 50. trample, 51. entangle, 52. coronavirus, 53. interconnect, 54. roam

55.	long-ext volcano	adj.	no longer in existence
56.	recer my transfer	<i>v</i> .	to think about a decision or opinion again to
57.	mies sterilizer	n.	a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
58.	new sers	n.	a person who moved with a group of others to live in a different country or area
59.	corus bankruptcy	n.	a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2
60.	recct an image	v.	to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
61.	literary oxon	n.	a figure of speech that combines contradictory terms, such as "jumbo shrimp" or "deafening silence"
62.	solve a suu	n.	a logic-based, combinatorial number-placement puzzle that typically consists of a 9x9 grid divided into nine 3x3 sub-grids and requires the solver to fill in each empty square with a number from 1-9, with the constraint that no number can appear more than once in a

ANSWERS: 55. extinct, 56. reconsider, 57. microbe, 58. settler, 59. coronavirus, 60. reconstruct, 61. oxymoron, 62. sudoku

row, column, or sub-grid

63.	emer a cushion	ν.	to decorate or embellish a fabric or piece of clothing with ornamental or colorful designs using needlework; to add fictitious or exaggerated details to a story or account
64.	hide landscape	n.	the sloping side of a hill or mountain; a landscape feature characterized by a natural gradient or incline
65.	sers on some foreign shore	n.	a person who moved with a group of others to live in a different country or area
66.	exve ocean views	adj.	large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk
67.	synze information	v.	to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
68.	rent population	adj.	able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
69.	hide vineyard	n.	the sloping side of a hill or mountain; a landscape feature characterized by a natural gradient or incline
70.	a sqy story	adj.	soft and yielding to the touch; easily deformed

ANSWERS: 63. embroider, 64. hillside, 65. settler, 66. expansive, 67. synthesize, 68. resilient, 69. hillside, 70. squishy

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1.	Considering the situation of organized stopped this year's beer festival.
n.	a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2
2.	The vines of the plant themselves around the trellis.
<i>v</i> .	to become twisted or knotted together, especially in a way that makes it difficult to separate them; to involve in something complicated or difficult to escape
3.	He humbly his conduct.
v.	to think about a decision or opinion again to
4.	The police officer put on the suspect before placing them in the squad car.
n.	a pair of metal restraints that are designed to lock around a person's wrists and prevent them from moving their hands freely; (verb) to restrain or restrict the movement of a person by applying handcuffs, typically as part of an arrest or other security-related process
5.	She picked a blue from the meadow and placed it in her hair.
n.	a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead
6.	thrive on the surface of the human skin.
n.	a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
	SWERS: 1. coronavirus, 2. entangled, 3. reconsidered, 4. handcuffs, 5. daisy, 6. crobes

Vocab-Builder Ref from "Christina Agapakis: What happens when biology becomes technology? | TED Talk" (35 words)

15. The hikers were stunned by the beautiful wildflowers on the
n. the sloping side of a hill or mountain; a landscape feature characterized by a natural gradient or incline
16. The spider can multiple different silk proteins.
v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
17. I enjoy solving puzzles in my free time.
a logic-based, combinatorial number-placement puzzle that typically consists of a 9x9 grid divided into nine 3x3 sub-grids and requires the solver to fill in each empty square with a number from 1-9, with the constraint that no number can appear more than once in a row, column, or sub-grid
18. The properties of stem cells make them a promising area of research.
adj. tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue
19. The parrot was a beautiful sight. adj. having many colors
20. The company has an network of offices and locations around the world.
adj. large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk
21. I love to around the city and discover new neighborhoods.
v. to move about or travel aimlessly or without a fixed destination; to wander
22. The cords behind my computer were a mess. n. a confused mass of something twisted together

ANSWERS: 15. hillside, 16. synthesize, 17. sudoku, 18. regenerative, 19. multicolored, 20. expansive, 21. roam, 22. tangled

Vocab-Builder Ref from "Christina Agapakis: What happens when biology becomes technology? | TED Talk" (35 words)

ANSWERS: 31. briefcase, 32. arsenic, 33. squishy, 34. embroider, 35. poked