

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dan Katz and Alex Rosenthal: Can you solve the sorting hat riddle? | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_katz_and_alex_rosenthal_can_you_solve_the_sorting_hat_riddle

All Words

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

albatross

- n.* a large, oceanic sea bird with long wings and webbed feet, known for its impressive ability to fly long distances (including circumnavigating the globe) and for its association in popular culture with bad luck or misfortune; (of golf) a specific scoring achievement that is rarer than a birdie or an eagle, used when a player completes a hole in three strokes under par

synonym : seabird, gull, petrel

- (1) **albatross** on the par-5 hole, (2) **albatross** migration

The researcher spotted a majestic **albatross** gliding effortlessly over the ocean.

invitation

- n.* a spoken or written request to participate or be present or take part in something

synonym : request, asking, proposal

- (1) a letter of **invitation**, (2) **invitation** of foreign investment

I will be very happy to accept your **invitation**.

acquire

- v.* to buy or obtain something such as an asset, object, knowledge, etc., for oneself

synonym : attain, earn, catch

- (1) **acquire** knowledge, (2) **acquire** a new company

Children **acquire** language at a fantastic rate.

wand

n. a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority

synonym : rod, stick, staff

(1) magic **wand**, (2) security **wand**

The magician waved his **wand**, and a rabbit appeared from the hat.

enchant

v. to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone

synonym : charm, captivate, bewitch

(1) **enchant** the audience, (2) **enchant** the crowd

The fairy's spell **enchanted** the prince, making him fall asleep for 100 years.

adventure

n. a journey or a series of events that is unusual, exciting, or dangerous

synonym : experience, happening, incident

(1) gastronomic **adventures**, (2) **adventure** film

He sailed the Atlantic Ocean multiple times during his **adventures**.

magnificent

adj. extremely beautiful and impressive; grand or noble in thought or deed

synonym : splendid, brilliant, exquisite

(1) a **magnificent** plan, (2) a **magnificent** mountain

The **magnificent** scene of the glacier is awe-inspiring.

magical

adj. produced by or containing supernatural powers

synonym : enchanting, occult, supernatural

(1) **magical** place, (2) **magical** powers

When I was a child, my mother often cast **magical** spells to ease my pain whenever I was injured.

nervous

adj. worried and anxious about something; relating to the nerves

synonym : neural, anxious, uneasy

(1) development of the **nervous** system, (2) get **nervous**
He suffers from **nervous** breakdowns.

ceremony

n. a formal event or ritual, often religious or solemn
synonym: ritual, rite, observance

(1) **ceremony** hall, (2) **ceremony** location

The wedding **ceremony** was a beautiful and emotional event.

witch

n. a person, typically a woman, who is believed to have magic powers and practices witchcraft

synonym: sorceress, enchantress, healer

(1) **witch** hunt, (2) **witch** trial

Many people in the medieval period believed in **witches** and their ability to cast spells.

mysterious

adj. difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement

synonym: enigmatic, cryptic, puzzling

(1) **mysterious** object, (2) **mysterious** stranger

The **mysterious** disappearance of the ship remains unsolved.

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**.

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.

discovery

n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known

synonym : finding, uncovering, detection

(1) a scientific **discovery**, (2) the great **discovery** of the century

Her research team made an important **discovery**.

symbol

n. something visible that is used to represent something else

synonym : mark, character, insignia

(1) **symbol** color, (2) **symbol** for happiness

The dragon is considered a **symbol** of bravery.

pause

v. to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

synonym : halt, break, intermit

(1) **pause** a moment, (2) **pause** for a reaction

The man **paused** before opening the door.

logic

n. a way of thinking or reasoning conducted or evaluated by strict validity principles; the study of correct reasoning or good arguments

synonym : reasoning, reason, ratiocination

(1) an indisputable **logic**, (2) a demonstration in **logic**

There's no **logic** in his description.

puzzle

n. a situation that is difficult to follow or solve; a game, problem, or toy that tests a person's ingenuity or knowledge; (verb) to cause someone to feel confused because of something difficult to understand

synonym : plight, maze, (verb) perplex

(1) crossword **puzzle**, (2) mathematical **puzzle**

This jigsaw **puzzle** is challenging because there are no pictures.

assign

v. to give a specific job or piece of work to a someone

synonym : entrust, delegate, designate

(1) **assign** projects, (2) **assign** top priority

Please **assign** a different color to each other kind of item.

combine

v. to join or merge to form a single thing or group
synonym: coalesce, cohere, blend

(1) **combine** chemically with another substance,
(2) **combine** augmented reality

Hydrogen and oxygen **combine** to form water.

candid

adj. honest, straightforward, and frank in someone's words or actions

synonym: honest, frank, straightforward

(1) **candid** conversation, (2) in my **candid** opinion

The **candid** photography captured the genuine emotions of the moment.

constraint

n. a limit or restriction on something, such as an action, behavior, or thought

synonym: limitation, restriction, bound

(1) **constraint** on business activity, (2) strict time

constraints

The budget **constraint** forced them to make difficult decisions.

mention

v. to speak or write about something or someone briefly
synonym: reference, allude, cite

(1) **mention** name, (2) **mention** in a report

I **mentioned** to him that I had seen his sister at the grocery store earlier that day.

halfway

adj. in or at a point midway or an equal distance between two points

synonym: middle, median, center

(1) **halfway** through my journey, (2) **halfway** decent job

The famous restaurant stands **halfway** up the hill.

spot

n. a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it

synonym: dot, mark, place

(1) beauty **spot**, (2) a **spot** on his honor
This remote **spot** is rarely visited.

hint *n.* an indirect suggestion; a slight but appreciable amount of something

synonym: clue, indication, suggestion

(1) **hint** of trouble, (2) helpful **hints**

There was no **hint** of a problem.

strategy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.

synonym: approach, procedure, scenario

(1) military **strategy**, (2) develop a **strategy**

Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing **strategy**.

obsession *n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person

synonym: compulsion, fixation, enthusiasm

(1) **obsession** with character, (2) national **obsession**

Gambling became an **obsession** for him, and he eventually lost everything.

motto *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

synonym: slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

translate *v.* to convert or change words into another language

synonym: convert, transcribe, render

(1) **translate** a document into English, (2) **translate** the emotion to a movement

Translate the text from Italian into English.

magic

n. beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers

synonym : fascination, illusion, wizardry

(1) a **magic** spell, (2) she is **magic**

He performed **magic** tricks with sophisticated moves.

critic

n. someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.

synonym : pundit, analyst, attacker

(1) art **critic**, (2) severe **critic**

Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their **critics**.

emerge

v. to move out of or away from something and become visible

synonym : arise, occur, appear

(1) **emerge** as a butterfly, (2) **emerge** from poverty

During colonial eras, new migratory patterns **emerged**.

stun

v. to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly

synonym : shock, amaze, astound

(1) **stun** fish, (2) **stun** an audience

This sprinter **stunned** the world with his speed.

din

n. a loud, confused noise; a loud, persistent racket

synonym : noise, racket, clamor

(1) **din** of traffic, (2) mighty **din**

The **din** of the city was overwhelming.

grind

v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time

synonym : mill, crush, grate

(1) **grind** away at my work, (2) **grind** your teeth

She had to **grind** the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.

resident

n. a person who lives in a particular place or has their home in a place

synonym: dweller, inhabitant, inhabitant

(1) a **resident** of the city, (2) **resident** tax

Visa renewal for **resident** foreigners in this country is once every five years.

Session 2: Spelling

1. s__n fish
v. to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly
2. ma_____l powers
adj. produced by or containing supernatural powers
3. ob_____on with character
n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
4. pa__e for a reaction
v. to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
5. as___n top priority
v. to give a specific job or piece of work to a someone
6. wi__h hunt
n. a person, typically a woman, who is believed to have magic powers and practices witchcraft
7. severe cr___c
n. someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
8. strict time con_____nts
n. a limit or restriction on something, such as an action, behavior, or thought
9. co_____e chemically with another substance
v. to join or merge to form a single thing or group
10. ca___d conversation
adj. honest, straightforward, and frank in someone's words or actions
11. mys_____us stranger
adj. difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement

ANSWERS: 1. stun, 2. magical, 3. obsession, 4. pause, 5. assign, 6. witch, 7. critic, 8. constraint, 9. combine, 10. candid, 11. mysterious

12. in____t estate *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
13. crossword pu___e *n.* a situation that is difficult to follow or solve; a game, problem, or toy that tests a person's ingenuity or knowledge; (verb) to cause someone to feel confused because of something difficult to understand
14. ce____ny location *n.* a formal event or ritual, often religious or solemn
15. Peruvian ar____cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
16. the mo__o for safe traffic *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
17. co____e augmented reality *v.* to join or merge to form a single thing or group
18. she is ma__c *n.* beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers
19. in my ca____d opinion *adj.* honest, straightforward, and frank in someone's words or actions
20. s__n an audience *v.* to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly
21. wi__h trial *n.* a person, typically a woman, who is believed to have magic powers and practices witchcraft

ANSWERS: 12. inherit, 13. puzzle, 14. ceremony, 15. artifact, 16. motto, 17. combine, 18. magic, 19. candid, 20. stun, 21. witch

22. a s__t on his honor *n.* a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it
23. h__t of trouble *n.* an indirect suggestion; a slight but appreciable amount of something
24. en____t the crowd *v.* to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone
25. helpful h__ts *n.* an indirect suggestion; a slight but appreciable amount of something
26. gr__d your teeth *v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
27. a scientific di____ry *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
28. sy___l for happiness *n.* something visible that is used to represent something else
29. gr__d away at my work *v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
30. en____t the audience *v.* to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone
31. ha____y through my journey *adj.* in or at a point midway or an equal distance between two points
32. em___e as a butterfly *v.* to move out of or away from something and become visible
33. ce____ny hall *n.* a formal event or ritual, often religious or solemn

ANSWERS: 22. spot, 23. hint, 24. enchant, 25. hint, 26. grind, 27. discovery, 28. symbol, 29. grind, 30. enchant, 31. halfway, 32. emerge, 33. ceremony

34. tr_____te the emotion to a movement
v. to convert or change words into another language
35. mathematical pu___e
n. a situation that is difficult to follow or solve; a game, problem, or toy that tests a person's ingenuity or knowledge;
(verb) to cause someone to feel confused because of something difficult to understand
36. a ma__c spell
n. beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers
37. paleolithic ar_____cts
n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
38. beauty s__t
n. a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it
39. national ob_____on
n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
40. me_____n in a report
v. to speak or write about something or someone briefly
41. an indisputable lo__c
n. a way of thinking or reasoning conducted or evaluated by strict validity principles; the study of correct reasoning or good arguments
42. mighty d_n
n. a loud, confused noise; a loud, persistent racket
43. ha_____y decent job
adj. in or at a point midway or an equal distance between two points

ANSWERS: 34. translate, 35. puzzle, 36. magic, 37. artifact, 38. spot, 39. obsession, 40. mention, 41. logic, 42. din, 43. halfway

44. a letter of inv_____on *n.* a spoken or written request to participate or be present or take part in something
45. tr_____te a document into English *v.* to convert or change words into another language
46. al_____ss migration *n.* a large, oceanic sea bird with long wings and webbed feet, known for its impressive ability to fly long distances (including circumnavigating the globe) and for its association in popular culture with bad luck or misfortune; (of golf) a specific scoring achievement that is rarer than a birdie or an eagle, used when a player completes a hole in three strokes under par
47. pa__e a moment *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
48. em___e from poverty *v.* to move out of or away from something and become visible
49. get ne_____s *adj.* worried and anxious about something; relating to the nerves
50. the great di_____ry of the century *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
51. gastronomic ad_____res *n.* a journey or a series of events that is unusual, exciting, or dangerous
52. al_____ss on the par-5 hole *n.* a large, oceanic sea bird with long wings and webbed feet, known for its impressive ability to fly long distances (including circumnavigating the globe) and for its association in popular culture with bad luck or misfortune; (of golf) a specific scoring achievement that is rarer than a birdie or an eagle, used when a player completes a hole in three strokes under par

ANSWERS: 44. invitation, 45. translate, 46. albatross, 47. pause, 48. emerge, 49. nervous, 50. discovery, 51. adventure, 52. albatross

53. a re_____nt of the city *n.* a person who lives in a particular place or has their home in a place
54. mys_____us object *adj.* difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement
55. develop a st_____gy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
56. sy____l color *n.* something visible that is used to represent something else
57. inv_____on of foreign investment *n.* a spoken or written request to participate or be present or take part in something
58. me_____n name *v.* to speak or write about something or someone briefly
59. ma_____l place *adj.* produced by or containing supernatural powers
60. magic w__d *n.* a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
61. company mo__o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
62. con_____nt on business activity *n.* a limit or restriction on something, such as an action, behavior, or thought
63. art cr____c *n.* someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
64. development of the ne_____s system *adj.* worried and anxious about something; relating to the nerves

ANSWERS: 53. resident, 54. mysterious, 55. strategy, 56. symbol, 57. invitation, 58. mention, 59. magical, 60. wand, 61. motto, 62. constraint, 63. critic, 64. nervous

65. a mag_____nt mountain *adj.* extremely beautiful and impressive; grand or noble in thought or deed
66. ac_____e knowledge *v.* to buy or obtain something such as an asset, object, knowledge, etc., for oneself
67. ac_____e a new company *v.* to buy or obtain something such as an asset, object, knowledge, etc., for oneself
68. a demonstration in lo__c *n.* a way of thinking or reasoning conducted or evaluated by strict validity principles; the study of correct reasoning or good arguments
69. d_n of traffic *n.* a loud, confused noise; a loud, persistent racket
70. a mag_____nt plan *adj.* extremely beautiful and impressive; grand or noble in thought or deed
71. military st_____gy *n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
72. re_____nt tax *n.* a person who lives in a particular place or has their home in a place
73. security w__d *n.* a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
74. as___n projects *v.* to give a specific job or piece of work to a someone
75. ad_____re film *n.* a journey or a series of events that is unusual, exciting, or dangerous
76. in_____t ancestral property *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

ANSWERS: 65. magnificent, 66. acquire, 67. acquire, 68. logic, 69. din, 70. magnificent, 71. strategy, 72. resident, 73. wand, 74. assign, 75. adventure, 76. inherit

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ photography captured the genuine emotions of the moment.
adj. honest, straightforward, and frank in someone's words or actions
2. The budget _____ forced them to make difficult decisions.
n. a limit or restriction on something, such as an action, behavior, or thought
3. The ____ of the city was overwhelming.
n. a loud, confused noise; a loud, persistent racket
4. He sailed the Atlantic Ocean multiple times during his _____.
n. a journey or a series of events that is unusual, exciting, or dangerous
5. _____ the text from Italian into English.
v. to convert or change words into another language
6. The fairy's spell _____ the prince, making him fall asleep for 100 years.
v. to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone
7. The _____ disappearance of the ship remains unsolved.
adj. difficult to understand, explain, or identify; having an aura of secrecy, intrigue, or puzzlement
8. When I was a child, my mother often cast _____ spells to ease my pain whenever I was injured.
adj. produced by or containing supernatural powers
9. The _____ scene of the glacier is awe-inspiring.
adj. extremely beautiful and impressive; grand or noble in thought or deed

ANSWERS: 1. candid, 2. constraint, 3. din, 4. adventures, 5. Translate, 6. enchanted, 7. mysterious, 8. magical, 9. magnificent

10. This jigsaw _____ is challenging because there are no pictures.
n. a situation that is difficult to follow or solve; a game, problem, or toy that tests a person's ingenuity or knowledge; (verb) to cause someone to feel confused because of something difficult to understand
11. There was no _____ of a problem.
n. an indirect suggestion; a slight but appreciable amount of something
12. The dragon is considered a _____ of bravery.
n. something visible that is used to represent something else
13. Her research team made an important _____.
n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
14. I _____ to him that I had seen his sister at the grocery store earlier that day.
v. to speak or write about something or someone briefly
15. During colonial eras, new migratory patterns _____.
v. to move out of or away from something and become visible
16. There's no _____ in his description.
n. a way of thinking or reasoning conducted or evaluated by strict validity principles; the study of correct reasoning or good arguments
17. The famous restaurant stands _____ up the hill.
adj. in or at a point midway or an equal distance between two points
18. She had to _____ the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.
v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time

ANSWERS: 10. puzzle, 11. hint, 12. symbol, 13. discovery, 14. mentioned, 15. emerged, 16. logic, 17. halfway, 18. grind

19. After his death, his sons _____ his business.

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

20. This remote _____ is rarely visited.

n. a particular location or place; a small round or roundish area, differing in color or feels from the surface around it

21. He performed _____ tricks with sophisticated moves.

n. beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers

22. He suffers from _____ breakdowns.

adj. worried and anxious about something; relating to the nerves

23. The magician waved his _____ and a rabbit appeared from the hat.

n. a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority

24. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

25. Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their _____.

n. someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.

26. Children _____ language at a fantastic rate.

v. to buy or obtain something such as an asset, object, knowledge, etc., for oneself

ANSWERS: 19. inherited, 20. spot, 21. magic, 22. nervous, 23. wand, 24. motto, 25. critics, 26. acquire

27. I will be very happy to accept your _____.
- n.* a spoken or written request to participate or be present or take part in something
28. Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing _____.
- n.* a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.
29. Many people in the medieval period believed in _____ and their ability to cast spells.
- n.* a person, typically a woman, who is believed to have magic powers and practices witchcraft
30. Visa renewal for _____ foreigners in this country is once every five years.
- n.* a person who lives in a particular place or has their home in a place
31. Please _____ a different color to each other kind of item.
- v.* to give a specific job or piece of work to a someone
32. The wedding _____ was a beautiful and emotional event.
- n.* a formal event or ritual, often religious or solemn
33. Gambling became an _____ for him, and he eventually lost everything.
- n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
34. The museum has a vast collection of Greek _____.
- n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
35. This sprinter _____ the world with his speed.
- v.* to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly

ANSWERS: 27. invitation, 28. strategy, 29. witches, 30. resident, 31. assign, 32. ceremony, 33. obsession, 34. artifacts, 35. stunned

36. The researcher spotted a majestic _____ gliding effortlessly over the ocean.

- n.* a large, oceanic sea bird with long wings and webbed feet, known for its impressive ability to fly long distances (including circumnavigating the globe) and for its association in popular culture with bad luck or misfortune; (of golf) a specific scoring achievement that is rarer than a birdie or an eagle, used when a player completes a hole in three strokes under par

37. Hydrogen and oxygen _____ to form water.

- v.* to join or merge to form a single thing or group

38. The man _____ before opening the door.

- v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

ANSWERS: 36. albatross, 37. combine, 38. paused