

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Jan Stejskal: The last living members of an extinct species | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/jan\\_stejskal\\_the\\_last\\_living\\_members\\_of\\_an\\_extinct\\_species](https://www.ted.com/talks/jan_stejskal_the_last_living_members_of_an_extinct_species)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### savannah

*n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close

*synonym* : grassland, plain

(1) **savannah** region, (2) tropical **savannah**

The birds live in tropical forests, **savannahs**, and arid semi-desert environments.

### rhinoceros

*n.* (also rhino) a large, thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the nose, typically found in Africa and Asia.

*synonym* : rhino, horned beast, pachyderm

(1) **rhinoceros** habitat, (2) white **rhinoceros**

The baby **rhinoceros** at the wildlife sanctuary was recently born and is very cute.

### munch

*v.* to chew or eat something noisily, often with the sound of crunching or crunching

*synonym* : chew, nibble, gnaw

(1) **munch** on an apple, (2) **munch** away on crisps

I love to **munch** on popcorn while I watch a movie.

### contented

*adj.* feeling or expressing satisfaction and happiness with one's situation, life, or accomplishments; happy and at peace

*synonym* : satisfied, fulfilled, pleased

(1) **contented** smile, (2) **contented** customer

The sound of the rain on the rooftop made her feel **contented** and relaxed.

## 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.

## revive

*v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore

*synonym* : reanimate, rejuvenate, renew

(1) **revive** my energy, (2) **revive** an old friendship

They **revived** the tradition of holding a parade on the main street every year.

## poacher

*n.* a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally

(1) crackdown on **poachers**, (2) a suspected **poacher**

An old **poacher** makes the best keeper.

## decimate

*v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number

*synonym* : devastate, destroy, annihilate

(1) **decimate** population, (2) **decimate** economy

The hurricane **decimated** the small town, leaving behind destruction and devastation.

## conservationist

*n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

*synonym* : environmentalist

(1) wildlife **conservationist**, (2) dedicated **conservationist**

The extinction of this species has been a significant concern

for **conservationists**.

## **captivity**

*n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from

*synonym*: confinement, detention, imprisonment

(1) escape from **captivity**, (2) animals in **captivity** in the zoo

Pandas rarely breed in **captivity**.

## **semen**

*n.* the fluid that contains sperm and is ejaculated during sexual activity, which may fertilize an egg and lead to pregnancy

*synonym*: sperm, reproductive fluid, seed

(1) **semen** donation, (2) **semen** volume

After undergoing a **semen** analysis, the doctor told him that he had a low sperm count.

## **hind**

*adj.* situated at the back or rear; coming after, following; of, or relating to the hindquarters or hind legs of an animal

*synonym*: back, rear, posterior

(1) **hind** toe, (2) **hind** paw

The farmer noticed a **hind** leg injury on one of his cows and called the vet for help.

## **degenerate**

*v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition

*synonym*: deteriorate, decline, decay

(1) **degenerate** into a disagreement, (2) **degenerate** into recession

The once-thriving city has **degenerated** into a crime-ridden slum.

## **uterus**

*n.* a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth

*synonym*: womb

(1) **uterus** cancer, (2) bleeding from **uterus**

The physician prescribed medication to relieve the contraction of the **uterus**.

## **glimmer**

*n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something

*synonym*: gleam, dazzle, gleam

(1) without a **glimmer** of truth, (2) give a **glimmer** of light

There is however a **glimmer** of hope.

## **sedate**

*adj.* calm, tranquil, and composed, often as a result of being under the influence of a sedative or tranquilizer; unhurried, deliberate, and without excessive movement or activity

*synonym*: calm, composed, tranquil

(1) **sedate** atmosphere, (2) **sedate** patient

The **sedate** environment of the library was perfect for studying.

## **surrogate**

*adj.* acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose

*synonym*: substitute, replacement, deputy

(1) **surrogate** pregnancy, (2) **surrogate** decision

The **surrogate** mother gave birth to a healthy baby for the couple who couldn't conceive independently.

## **diverge**

*v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course

*synonym*: separate, split, part

(1) **diverge** from tradition, (2) **diverge** from the main topic

As tectonic plates **diverge**, new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.

## **inhabit**

*v.* to live in a specific location; to reside

*synonym*: settle, occupy, populate

(1) **inhabit** a cave, (2) **inhabit** the stomach

I have no idea what sort of folks **inhabit** the neighborhood.

- 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.
- fertilize** *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well  
*synonym* : pollinate, inseminate, enrich  
(1) **fertilize** the soil, (2) **fertilize** the female egg  
The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to **fertilize** a wife.
- interbreed** *v.* to breed between different species or varieties  
*synonym* : crossbreed, hybridize  
(1) **interbreed** to produce hybrid offspring, (2) **interbreed** plants  
Lions and tigers can **interbreed** to produce a liger.
- glacial** *adj.* relating to or resembling a glacier (= a slowly moving mass of ice) or the process of glaciation; characterized by an extremely slow or gradual pace or movement  
*synonym* : cold, icy, frozen  
(1) **glacial** movements, (2) **glacial** terrain  
The **glacial** pace of the negotiations frustrated both parties.
- recreate** *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again  
*synonym* : renovate, vivify, revive  
(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s  
She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.
- endanger** *v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation  
*synonym* : threaten, imperil, jeopardize

(1) **endanger** my health, (2) **endanger** a close relationship  
Their actions **endangered** the lives of innocent people.

## **brink**

*n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place

*synonym*: edge, verge, threshold

(1) **brink** of war, (2) on the **brink**

We were on the **brink** of a financial crisis.

## **expend**

*v.* to use or spend time, money, energy, etc.

*synonym*: disburse, spend, pay

(1) **expend** a great deal of energy, (2) **expend** time and resources

Billionaires tend to **expend** private funds on a public undertaking.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. escape from ca\_\_\_\_\_ty  
*n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
2. h\_\_d paw  
*adj.* situated at the back or rear; coming after, following; of, or relating to the hindquarters or hind legs of an animal
3. se\_\_n volume  
*n.* the fluid that contains sperm and is ejaculated during sexual activity, which may fertilize an egg and lead to pregnancy
4. dedicated con\_\_\_\_\_ist  
*n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife
5. gl\_\_\_\_\_l terrain  
*adj.* relating to or resembling a glacier (= a slowly moving mass of ice) or the process of glaciation; characterized by an extremely slow or gradual pace or movement
6. en\_\_\_\_\_er a close relationship  
*v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation
7. tropical sa\_\_\_\_\_ah  
*n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
8. se\_\_\_e atmosphere  
*adj.* calm, tranquil, and composed, often as a result of being under the influence of a sedative or tranquilizer; unhurried, deliberate, and without excessive movement or activity

ANSWERS: 1. captivity, 2. hind, 3. semen, 4. conservationist, 5. glacial, 6. endanger, 7. savannah, 8. sedate

9. sa\_\_\_\_ah region *n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
10. ex\_\_\_\_d a great deal of energy *v.* to use or spend time, money, energy, etc.
11. su\_\_\_\_te pregnancy *adj.* acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose
12. fe\_\_\_\_ze the female egg *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
13. de\_\_\_\_te economy *v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number
14. ut\_\_\_\_s cancer *n.* a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth
15. give a gl\_\_\_\_r of light *n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something
16. co\_\_\_\_ed customer *adj.* feeling or expressing satisfaction and happiness with one's situation, life, or accomplishments; happy and at peace
17. di\_\_\_\_e from the main topic *v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course

ANSWERS: 9. savannah, 10. expend, 11. surrogate, 12. fertilize, 13. decimate, 14. uterus, 15. glimmer, 16. contented, 17. diverge



18. di\_\_\_\_\_e from tradition      *v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
19. re\_\_\_e an old friendship      *v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore
20. int\_\_\_\_\_ed plants      *v.* to breed between different species or varieties
21. en\_\_\_\_\_er my health      *v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation
22. deg\_\_\_\_\_te into recession      *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
23. a suspected po\_\_\_\_\_r      *n.* a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally
24. gl\_\_\_\_\_l movements      *adj.* relating to or resembling a glacier (= a slowly moving mass of ice) or the process of glaciation; characterized by an extremely slow or gradual pace or movement
25. wildlife con\_\_\_\_\_ist      *n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife
26. re\_\_\_\_\_te a single country      *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
27. mu\_\_h on an apple      *v.* to chew or eat something noisily, often with the sound of crunching or crunching
28. animals in ca\_\_\_\_\_ty in the zoo      *n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from

ANSWERS: 18. diverge, 19. revive, 20. interbreed, 21. endanger, 22. degenerate, 23. poacher, 24. glacial, 25. conservationist, 26. recreate, 27. munch, 28. captivity

29. int\_\_\_\_\_ed to produce hybrid offspring  
*v.* to breed between different species or varieties
30. crackdown on po\_\_\_\_\_rs  
*n.* a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally
31. ex\_\_\_\_d time and resources  
*v.* to use or spend time, money, energy, etc.
32. ex\_\_\_\_\_t by human activity  
*adj.* no longer in existence
33. without a gl\_\_\_\_\_r of truth  
*n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something
34. h\_\_d toe  
*adj.* situated at the back or rear; coming after, following; of, or relating to the hindquarters or hind legs of an animal
35. bleeding from ut\_\_\_\_s  
*n.* a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth
36. mu\_\_h away on crisps  
*v.* to chew or eat something noisily, often with the sound of crunching or crunching
37. se\_\_n donation  
*n.* the fluid that contains sperm and is ejaculated during sexual activity, which may fertilize an egg and lead to pregnancy
38. su\_\_\_\_\_te decision  
*adj.* acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose
39. fe\_\_\_\_\_ze the soil  
*v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well

ANSWERS: 29. interbreed, 30. poacher, 31. expend, 32. extinct, 33. glimmer, 34. hind, 35. uterus, 36. munch, 37. semen, 38. surrogate, 39. fertilize

40. de\_\_\_\_te population *v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number
41. long-ex\_\_\_\_t volcano *adj.* no longer in existence
42. re\_\_\_\_te the feeling of the 1920s *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
43. white rhi\_\_\_\_os *n.* (also rhino) a large, thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the nose, typically found in Africa and Asia.
44. rhi\_\_\_\_os habitat *n.* (also rhino) a large, thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the nose, typically found in Africa and Asia.
45. br\_\_k of war *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
46. on the br\_\_k *n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
47. in\_\_\_\_t a cave *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
48. in\_\_\_\_t the stomach *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
49. deg\_\_\_\_te into a disagreement *v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
50. co\_\_\_\_ed smile *adj.* feeling or expressing satisfaction and happiness with one's situation, life, or accomplishments; happy and at peace
51. re\_\_\_e my energy *v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore

ANSWERS: 40. decimate, 41. extinct, 42. recreate, 43. rhinoceros, 44. rhinoceros, 45. brink, 46. brink, 47. inhabit, 48. inhabit, 49. degenerate, 50. contented, 51. revive

52. chemical tr\_\_t                            *n.* a particular feature of your nature
53. personality tr\_\_ts                        *n.* a particular feature of your nature
54. se\_\_\_e patient                            *adj.* calm, tranquil, and composed, often as a result of being under the influence of a sedative or tranquilizer; unhurried, deliberate, and without excessive movement or activity

ANSWERS: 52. trait, 53. trait, 54. sedate

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The baby \_\_\_\_\_ at the wildlife sanctuary was recently born and is very cute.
  - n.* (also rhino) a large, thick-skinned mammal with one or two horns on the nose, typically found in Africa and Asia.
2. We were on the \_\_\_\_\_ of a financial crisis.
  - n.* the point at which something is about to happen; the edge of a steep place
3. As tectonic plates \_\_\_\_\_ new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.
  - v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
4. I have no idea what sort of folks \_\_\_\_\_ the neighborhood.
  - v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
5. The sound of the rain on the rooftop made her feel \_\_\_\_\_ and relaxed.
  - adj.* feeling or expressing satisfaction and happiness with one's situation, life, or accomplishments; happy and at peace
6. Multiple genes may influence behavioral \_\_\_\_\_ concurrently.
  - n.* a particular feature of your nature
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ mother gave birth to a healthy baby for the couple who couldn't conceive independently.
  - adj.* acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose

ANSWERS: 1. rhinoceros, 2. brink, 3. diverge, 4. inhabit, 5. contented, 6. traits, 7. surrogate

8. Their actions \_\_\_\_\_ the lives of innocent people.  
*v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation
9. The physician prescribed medication to relieve the contraction of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth
10. The farmer noticed a \_\_\_\_\_ leg injury on one of his cows and called the vet for help.  
*adj.* situated at the back or rear; coming after, following; of, or relating to the hindquarters or hind legs of an animal
11. The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to \_\_\_\_\_ a wife.  
*v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
12. Billionaires tend to \_\_\_\_\_ private funds on a public undertaking.  
*v.* to use or spend time, money, energy, etc.
13. They \_\_\_\_\_ the tradition of holding a parade on the main street every year.  
*v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore
14. The once-thriving city has \_\_\_\_\_ into a crime-ridden slum.  
*v.* (of a person, animal, or plant) to become worse in health or physical condition
15. An old \_\_\_\_\_ makes the best keeper.  
*n.* a person who catches and kills birds, animals, or fish illegally

ANSWERS: 8. endangered, 9. uterus, 10. hind, 11. fertilize, 12. expend, 13. revived, 14. degenerated, 15. poacher

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ pace of the negotiations frustrated both parties.

*adj.* relating to or resembling a glacier (= a slowly moving mass of ice) or the process of glaciation; characterized by an extremely slow or gradual pace or movement

17. Many species have become \_\_\_\_\_ due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

*adj.* no longer in existence

18. I love to \_\_\_\_\_ on popcorn while I watch a movie.

*v.* to chew or eat something noisily, often with the sound of crunching or crunching

19. The hurricane \_\_\_\_\_ the small town, leaving behind destruction and devastation.

*v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number

20. She \_\_\_\_\_ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

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

21. The birds live in tropical forests, \_\_\_\_\_ and arid semi-desert environments.

*n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close

22. After undergoing a \_\_\_\_\_ analysis, the doctor told him that he had a low sperm count.

*n.* the fluid that contains sperm and is ejaculated during sexual activity, which may fertilize an egg and lead to pregnancy

ANSWERS: 16. glacial, 17. extinct, 18. munch, 19. decimated, 20. recreated, 21. savannahs, 22. semen

23. Lions and tigers can \_\_\_\_\_ to produce a liger.

*v.* to breed between different species or varieties

24. Pandas rarely breed in \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from

25. There is however a \_\_\_\_\_ of hope.

*n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something

26. The \_\_\_\_\_ environment of the library was perfect for studying.

*adj.* calm, tranquil, and composed, often as a result of being under the influence of a sedative or tranquilizer; unhurried, deliberate, and without excessive movement or activity

27. The extinction of this species has been a significant concern for \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

ANSWERS: 23. interbreed, 24. captivity, 25. glimmer, 26. sedate, 27. conservationists