

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Andrew Forrest: A radical plan to end plastic waste |  
TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/andrew\\_forrest\\_a\\_radical\\_plan\\_to\\_end\\_plastic\\_waste](https://www.ted.com/talks/andrew_forrest_a_radical_plan_to_end_plastic_waste)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### obsess

*v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

*synonym*: torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

### mammal

*n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body

(1) a primitive **mammal**, (2) a sort of **mammal**

Marine **mammal** populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.

### microplastic

*n.* tiny plastic fragments in the environment originating from consumer products and industrial waste

(1) **microplastic** particle, (2) **microplastic** pollution in the sea

Several scholars have pointed out that inhalation of **microplastics** may have adverse effects on the human body.

### amorphous

*adj.* without a definite or clear shape or form; lacking a specific structure or organization; shapeless or formless

*synonym* : formless, shapeless, structureless

(1) **amorphous** amoeba, (2) **amorphous** mass

The clouded jellyfish has an **amorphous** shape, making it difficult to identify.

## pathogen

*n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease

*synonym* : germ, microbe, bacterium

(1) plant **pathogen**, (2) the **pathogen** in the air

mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated **pathogens**.

## toxin

*n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism

*synonym* : poison, venom, contaminant

(1) **toxin** exposure, (2) **toxin** production

Mold exposure can release dangerous **toxins** into the air.

## impatience

*n.* a feeling of restlessness or irritation caused by a desire for something to happen or be done more quickly; lack of patience

*synonym* : impatience, restlessness, agitation

(1) **impatience** with delays, (2) business **impatience**

The doctor advised him to manage his **impatience** as stress could exacerbate his medical condition.

## straightaway

*adv.* immediately or without any delay or hesitation; without any deviation or detour

*synonym* : directly, immediately, straight

(1) turn **straightaway**, (2) go **straightaway**

I accelerated **straightaway** to catch up to the car ahead of me on the highway.

## rag

*n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning

*synonym* : cloth, fragment

(1) a **rag** of cloud, (2) **rag** doll

He used an old **rag** to clean the grease off the car's engine.

## minuscule

*adj.* extremely small; tiny

*synonym* : tiny, insignificant, microscopic

(1) **minuscule** amount, (2) **minuscule** letters

This ore emits **minuscule** quantities of radiation

## akin

*adj.* similar or related in nature, character, or origin

*synonym* : similar, related, alike

(1) **akin** to anger, (2) **akin** to the prior experiences

Her interests are **akin** to mine.

## industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym* : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

## petrochemical

*n.* a chemical compound derived from petroleum or natural gas, used as a raw material in the manufacture of plastics, synthetic fibers, and other products

*synonym* : oil-based, chemical-based, refinery product

(1) **petrochemical** complex, (2) **petrochemical** plant

The town's economy relies heavily on the **petrochemical** industry.

## ingrained

*adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time

*synonym* : inborn, embedded, deep-seated

(1) **ingrained** habit, (2) **ingrained** prejudice

Her fear of dogs was **ingrained** after a traumatic experience in childhood.

## recycle

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

*synonym*: reclaim, reuse, reprocess

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

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

## tweak

v. to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely

*synonym*: nip, pinch, fine-tune

(1) **tweak** his cheek, (2) **tweak** the economy

He didn't **tweak** the plan, even though he had time.

## twig

n. a small, thin, flexible branch or shoot of a tree or shrub; a slender, fragile, or delicate object or individual

*synonym*: branchlet, sprig, osier

(1) **twig** branch, (2) **twig** basket

The bird perched on a **twig** and sang a beautiful melody.

## interrogate

v. to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

*synonym*: question, examine, probe

(1) **interrogate** an enemy soldier, (2) **interrogated** by police

The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately **interrogate** the witness.

## dinosaur

n. a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin

*synonym*: reptile, beast, monster

(1) hulking **dinosaur**, (2) **dinosaur** fossil

The discovery of a new **dinosaur** species made headlines in the scientific community.

## smashing

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

*synonym*: great, wonderful, breaking

(1) a **smashing** blow, (2) give **smashing** results

The band's new album was a **smashing** success, reaching the top of the charts.

## depauperate

v. to make thin, weak, or reduced in number; to cause impoverishment or depletion; (noun) of or relating to an ecosystem, area, or environment that is lacking in number and diversity of species

*synonym*: impoverish, reduce, drain

(1) **depauperate** the soil, (2) **depauperate** environment

Many people living in poverty **depauperate** their diets to make ends meet.

## spew

v. to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts

*synonym*: vomit, spout, discharge

(1) **spew** carbon dioxide, (2) **spew** insults

The volcano started to **spew** lava and ash, causing panic among residents.

## carve

v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply

*synonym*: sculpt, engrave, cut

(1) **carve** a statue, (2) **carve** my name on the plate

This statue is **carved** from a single tree trunk.

## peel

v. to remove the skin of fruit and vegetables

*synonym*: pare, unclothe, disrobe

(1) **peel** a fruit, (2) **peel** off easily

The storm had **peeled** all paint off the siding.

## boredom

n. a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation

*synonym*: ennui, tedium, monotony

(1) **boredom** relief, (2) chronic **boredom**

The long lecture on a topic I already knew left me struggling to fight off **boredom**.

### opportune

*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

*synonym* : suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

### impoverished

*adj.* reduced to poverty or destitution; lacking in resources, means, or vitality; depleted or exhausted

*synonym* : destitute, bankrupt, famished

(1) **impoverished** nation, (2) **impoverished** family

The **impoverished** villagers struggled to make ends meet with little access to food and clean water.

### philanthropy

*n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money

*synonym* : altruism, benevolence, generosity

(1) **philanthropy** organization, (2) private **philanthropy**

Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on **philanthropy**.

### underwrite

*v.* to assume financial responsibility for something

*synonym* : insure, guarantee, cover

(1) **underwrite** a loan, (2) **underwrite** an issue of shares

The insurance company decided to **underwrite** the policy for the new building.

### craving

*n.* a strong desire of wanting something

*synonym* : desire, appetite, longing

(1) **craving** for revenge, (2) curb our **cravings**

I have a **craving** for nicotine.

### 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.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. give sm\_\_\_\_\_ng results *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
2. p\_\_l off easily *v.* to remove the skin of fruit and vegetables
3. an op\_\_\_\_\_ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
4. mic\_\_\_\_\_tic pollution in the sea *n.* tiny plastic fragments in the environment originating from consumer products and industrial waste
5. imp\_\_\_\_\_hed nation *adj.* reduced to poverty or destitution; lacking in resources, means, or vitality; depleted or exhausted
6. turn str\_\_\_\_\_way *adv.* immediately or without any delay or hesitation; without any deviation or detour
7. int\_\_\_\_\_ted by police *v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
8. the pa\_\_\_\_\_en in the air *n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
9. s\_\_w carbon dioxide *v.* to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
10. ob\_\_\_s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
11. reg\_\_\_\_\_ive therapy *adj.* tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue

ANSWERS: 1. smashing, 2. peel, 3. opportune, 4. microplastic, 5. impoverished, 6. straightaway, 7. interrogate, 8. pathogen, 9. spew, 10. obsess, 11. regenerative



12. mic\_\_\_\_\_tic particle      *n.* tiny plastic fragments in the environment originating from consumer products and industrial waste
13. am\_\_\_\_\_us mass      *adj.* without a definite or clear shape or form; lacking a specific structure or organization; shapeless or formless
14. ind\_\_\_\_\_us worker      *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
15. imp\_\_\_\_\_ce with delays      *n.* a feeling of restlessness or irritation caused by a desire for something to happen or be done more quickly; lack of patience
16. hulking di\_\_\_\_\_ur      *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
17. imp\_\_\_\_\_hed family      *adj.* reduced to poverty or destitution; lacking in resources, means, or vitality; depleted or exhausted
18. to\_\_n exposure      *n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism
19. plant pa\_\_\_\_\_en      *n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
20. to\_\_n production      *n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism

ANSWERS: 12. microplastic, 13. amorphous, 14. industrious, 15. impatience, 16. dinosaur, 17. impoverished, 18. toxin, 19. pathogen, 20. toxin

21. int\_\_\_\_\_te an enemy soldier      *v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
22. re\_\_\_\_\_e the cardboard boxes      *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
23. und\_\_\_\_\_te a loan      *v.* to assume financial responsibility for something
24. dep\_\_\_\_\_te the soil      *v.* to make thin, weak, or reduced in number; to cause impoverishment or depletion; (noun) of or relating to an ecosystem, area, or environment that is lacking in number and diversity of species
25. curb our cr\_\_\_\_\_gs      *n.* a strong desire of wanting something
26. p\_\_l a fruit      *v.* to remove the skin of fruit and vegetables
27. a sort of ma\_\_\_\_l      *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
28. und\_\_\_\_\_te an issue of shares      *v.* to assume financial responsibility for something
29. ca\_\_e a statue      *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
30. mi\_\_\_\_\_le amount      *adj.* extremely small; tiny
31. s\_\_w insults      *v.* to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
32. a\_\_n to anger      *adj.* similar or related in nature, character, or origin

ANSWERS: 21. interrogate, 22. recycle, 23. underwrite, 24. depauperate, 25. craving, 26. peel, 27. mammal, 28. underwrite, 29. carve, 30. minuscule, 31. spew, 32. akin

33. business imp\_\_\_\_\_ce *n.* a feeling of restlessness or irritation caused by a desire for something to happen or be done more quickly; lack of patience
34. di\_\_\_\_\_ur fossil *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
35. dep\_\_\_\_\_te environment *v.* to make thin, weak, or reduced in number; to cause impoverishment or depletion; (noun) of or relating to an ecosystem, area, or environment that is lacking in number and diversity of species
36. re\_\_\_\_\_e milk packaging into new paper *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
37. in\_\_\_\_\_ed prejudice *adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
38. cr\_\_\_\_\_g for revenge *n.* a strong desire of wanting something
39. he is ob\_\_\_sed with the fear *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
40. a sm\_\_\_\_\_ng blow *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
41. bo\_\_\_\_\_m relief *n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
42. reg\_\_\_\_\_ive medicine *adj.* tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue

ANSWERS: 33. impatience, 34. dinosaur, 35. depauperate, 36. recycle, 37. ingrained, 38. craving, 39. obsess, 40. smashing, 41. boredom, 42. regenerative

43. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
44. mi\_\_\_\_\_le letters *adj.* extremely small; tiny
45. private phi\_\_\_\_\_opy *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
46. a primitive ma\_\_\_\_l *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
47. ca\_\_e my name on the plate *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
48. t\_\_g branch *n.* a small, thin, flexible branch or shoot of a tree or shrub; a slender, fragile, or delicate object or individual
49. a r\_g of cloud *n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning
50. op\_\_\_\_\_ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
51. tw\_\_k his cheek *v.* to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely
52. pet\_\_\_\_\_cal complex *n.* a chemical compound derived from petroleum or natural gas, used as a raw material in the manufacture of plastics, synthetic fibers, and other products
53. in\_\_\_\_\_ed habit *adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time

ANSWERS: 43. industrious, 44. minuscule, 45. philanthropy, 46. mammal, 47. carve, 48. twig, 49. rag, 50. opportune, 51. tweak, 52. petrochemical, 53. ingrained

54. am\_\_\_\_\_us amoeba *adj.* without a definite or clear shape or form; lacking a specific structure or organization; shapeless or formless
55. r\_g doll *n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning
56. chronic bo\_\_\_\_\_m *n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
57. phi\_\_\_\_\_opy organization *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
58. go str\_\_\_\_\_way *adv.* immediately or without any delay or hesitation; without any deviation or detour
59. a\_\_n to the prior experiences *adj.* similar or related in nature, character, or origin
60. t\_\_g basket *n.* a small, thin, flexible branch or shoot of a tree or shrub; a slender, fragile, or delicate object or individual
61. pet\_\_\_\_\_cal plant *n.* a chemical compound derived from petroleum or natural gas, used as a raw material in the manufacture of plastics, synthetic fibers, and other products
62. tw\_\_k the economy *v.* to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely

ANSWERS: 54. amorphous, 55. rag, 56. boredom, 57. philanthropy, 58. straightaway, 59. akin, 60. twig, 61. petrochemical, 62. tweak

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The doctor advised him to manage his \_\_\_\_\_ as stress could exacerbate his medical condition.
  - n.* a feeling of restlessness or irritation caused by a desire for something to happen or be done more quickly; lack of patience
2. Several scholars have pointed out that inhalation of \_\_\_\_\_ may have adverse effects on the human body.
  - n.* tiny plastic fragments in the environment originating from consumer products and industrial waste
3. The storm had \_\_\_\_\_ all paint off the siding.
  - v.* to remove the skin of fruit and vegetables
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ properties of stem cells make them a promising area of research.
  - adj.* tending to regrow or restore lost or injured tissue
5. The discovery of a new \_\_\_\_\_ species made headlines in the scientific community.
  - n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
6. I accelerated \_\_\_\_\_ to catch up to the car ahead of me on the highway.
  - adv.* immediately or without any delay or hesitation; without any deviation or detour
7. He didn't \_\_\_\_\_ the plan, even though he had time.
  - v.* to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely

ANSWERS: 1. impatience, 2. microplastics, 3. peeled, 4. regenerative, 5. dinosaur, 6. straightaway, 7. tweak

8. We largely \_\_\_\_\_ the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.
- v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
9. mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated \_\_\_\_\_.
- n. a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
10. The insurance company decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the policy for the new building.
- v. to assume financial responsibility for something
11. The town's economy relies heavily on the \_\_\_\_\_ industry.
- n. a chemical compound derived from petroleum or natural gas, used as a raw material in the manufacture of plastics, synthetic fibers, and other products
12. Mold exposure can release dangerous \_\_\_\_\_ into the air.
- n. a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism
13. He's utterly \_\_\_\_\_ with his promotion.
- v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
14. Her interests are \_\_\_\_\_ to mine.
- adj. similar or related in nature, character, or origin
15. The bird perched on a \_\_\_\_\_ and sang a beautiful melody.
- n. a small, thin, flexible branch or shoot of a tree or shrub; a slender, fragile, or delicate object or individual

ANSWERS: 8. recycle, 9. pathogens, 10. underwrite, 11. petrochemical, 12. toxins, 13. obsessed, 14. akin, 15. twig

16. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
17. Marine \_\_\_\_\_ populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.  
*n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
18. The long lecture on a topic I already knew left me struggling to fight off \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
19. This statue is \_\_\_\_\_ from a single tree trunk.  
*v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
20. Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
21. Her fear of dogs was \_\_\_\_\_ after a traumatic experience in childhood.  
*adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
22. Many people living in poverty \_\_\_\_\_ their diets to make ends meet.  
*v.* to make thin, weak, or reduced in number; to cause impoverishment or depletion; (noun) of or relating to an ecosystem, area, or environment that is lacking in number and diversity of species
23. The phone rang at the most \_\_\_\_\_ time.  
*adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 16. industrious, 17. mammal, 18. boredom, 19. carved, 20. philanthropy, 21. ingrained, 22. depauperate, 23. opportune



24. The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately \_\_\_\_\_ the witness.  
*v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
25. The \_\_\_\_\_ villagers struggled to make ends meet with little access to food and clean water.  
*adj.* reduced to poverty or destitution; lacking in resources, means, or vitality; depleted or exhausted
26. The clouded jellyfish has an \_\_\_\_\_ shape, making it difficult to identify.  
*adj.* without a definite or clear shape or form; lacking a specific structure or organization; shapeless or formless
27. The volcano started to \_\_\_\_\_ lava and ash, causing panic among residents.  
*v.* to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
28. I have a \_\_\_\_\_ for nicotine.  
*n.* a strong desire of wanting something
29. He used an old \_\_\_\_\_ to clean the grease off the car's engine.  
*n.* a piece of cloth, especially an old one, torn or cut into strips and used for cleaning
30. This ore emits \_\_\_\_\_ quantities of radiation  
*adj.* extremely small; tiny
31. The band's new album was a \_\_\_\_\_ success, reaching the top of the charts.  
*adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

ANSWERS: 24. interrogate, 25. impoverished, 26. amorphous, 27. spew, 28. craving, 29. rag, 30. minuscule, 31. smashing

ANSWERS: