

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Valentin Hammoudi: How tall can a tree grow? | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/valentin\\_hammoudi\\_how\\_tall\\_can\\_a\\_tree\\_grow](https://www.ted.com/talks/valentin_hammoudi_how_tall_can_a_tree_grow)

### 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

### sequoia

*n.* a huge evergreen tree that is native to California and has a straight trunk and a narrow, conical crown, which is a type of redwood

*synonym* : redwood

(1) a giant **sequoia**, (2) **Sequoia** National Park

The **sequoia** tree is known for its massive size and long lifespan.

### misty

*adj.* characterized by, obscured by, or enveloped in mist or fog; hazy or unclear, often referring to the quality of a memory or thought

*synonym* : hazy, foggy, blurred

(1) **misty** intention, (2) **misty** forest

The **misty** morning made it hard to see the road ahead.

### behemoth

*n.* something extremely large and powerful; a huge or monstrous creature, often mythical in nature

*synonym* : giant, monster, colossus

(1) **behemoth** company, (2) technology **behemoth**

The construction site was filled with **behemoth** machines.

### sap

*v.* to gradually weaken or drain strength, energy, or resources; to undermine or impair someone's

confidence or morale

*synonym*: weaken, exhaust, drain

(1) **sap** flow, (2) **sap** strength

The disease has **sapped** all his energy, and he can barely get out of bed.

## photosynthesis

*n.* the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.

(1) oxygenic **photosynthesis**, (2) process of **photosynthesis**

In **photosynthesis**, plants use carbon dioxide to feed themselves.

## circulate

*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system

*synonym*: flow, disperse, rotate

(1) **circulate** a rumor, (2) **circulate** an agenda before the meeting

The fan **circulates** the air in the room quickly.

## phloem

*n.* the tissue in plants that conducts sugars and other metabolic products downward from the leaves

*synonym*: sieve tube, vascular tissue, plant sap

(1) **phloem** tissue, (2) **phloem** cell

The **phloem** transports the sugars produced in the leaves to other plant parts.

## watery

*adj.* full of or containing water; wet

*synonym*: liquid, wet, damp

(1) a **watery** fluid, (2) go to a **watery** grave

The soup was too **watery** and needed more flavor.

## xylem

*n.* the tissue in plants that conducts water and dissolved nutrients from the roots upward through the stem and

into the leaves

*synonym* : wood, tree sap, plant stem

(1) **xylem** vessels, (2) **xylem** cell

The **xylem** in trees gives them strength and allows them to transport water and nutrients.

## osmosis

*n.* the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another

*synonym* : diffusion, permeation, absorption

(1) **osmosis** process, (2) **osmosis** tube

The roots of plants absorb water and nutrients through **osmosis**.

## formidable

*adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

*synonym* : daunting, intimidating, fearful

(1) **formidable** challenge, (2) **formidable** competitor

The mountain range was a **formidable** obstacle for the hikers.

## herculean

*adj.* requiring great strength, effort, or endurance; of or relating to the legendary strength of the ancient Greek hero Hercules

*synonym* : challenging, formidable, strenuous

(1) **herculean** effort, (2) make **herculean** progress

Completing this project in such a short amount of time will be a **herculean** task.

## transpire

*v.* to happen or be revealed

*synonym* : occur, happen, take place

(1) **transpire** as expected, (2) **transpire** in the news

It finally **transpired** that an employee had stolen the missing

money.

## capillary

*n.* a tube of small internal diameter; any of the minute tubes that carry blood

(1) a **capillary** tube, (2) **capillary** action

There are many **capillary** vessels in the gills of fish.

## stoma

*n.* a small opening, pore, or pore-like structure, usually found on the surface of plants, through which gases are exchanged with the environment; in animals, a small opening or pore, such as the mouth or nostril

*synonym*: pore, opening, stomatal

(1) **stomas** on the underside of the leaf, (2) tracheostomy

### stoma

The surgeon created a **stoma** in the patient's abdomen for feeding and waste elimination.

## evaporate

*v.* to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually

*synonym*: vaporize, disappear, vanish

(1) **evaporate** the water, (2) **evaporate** almost overnight

The sun will **evaporate** the mist.

## evaporation

*n.* the process of a liquid changing into a gas or vapor, often as a result of high temperatures or reduced pressure; the gradual disappearance or dissipation of something, such as money or resources

*synonym*: vaporization, dehydration, desiccation

(1) **evaporation** cooling, (2) slow **evaporation**

The formation of clouds is facilitated by the process of **evaporation** and condensation

## filament

*n.* a thin wire or thread, especially one used to produce light in an electric bulb

*synonym*: fiber, thread, filament

(1) **filament** lamp, (2) carbon **filament**

The **filament** in the light bulb burned out, and now it's not

working.

## dizzy

*adj.* having or causing a whirling sensation and not able to keep balance

*synonym* : addled, confounded, unsteady

(1) feel **dizzy**, (2) had a **dizzy** spell

Professional skaters can spin fast on the ice without getting **dizzy**.

## centimeter

*n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

(1) **centimeter** measurement, (2) thirty **centimeters** tall

The room was only one **centimeter** wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.

## dwindle

*v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller

*synonym* : shrink, decrease, fade

(1) **dwindle** in importance, (2) **dwindle** to almost nothing

The crowds at the festival **dwindled** as the night went on.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. mi\_\_y intention *adj.* characterized by, obscured by, or enveloped in mist or fog; hazy or unclear, often referring to the quality of a memory or thought
2. cen\_\_\_\_\_er measurement *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
3. he\_\_\_\_\_an effort *adj.* requiring great strength, effort, or endurance; of or relating to the legendary strength of the ancient Greek hero Hercules
4. eva\_\_\_\_\_on cooling *n.* the process of a liquid changing into a gas or vapor, often as a result of high temperatures or reduced pressure; the gradual disappearance or dissipation of something, such as money or resources
5. a giant se\_\_\_\_\_a *n.* a huge evergreen tree that is native to California and has a straight trunk and a narrow, conical crown, which is a type of redwood
6. st\_\_as on the underside of the leaf *n.* a small opening, pore, or pore-like structure, usually found on the surface of plants, through which gases are exchanged with the environment; in animals, a small opening or pore, such as the mouth or nostril
7. tr\_\_\_\_\_re as expected *v.* to happen or be revealed

ANSWERS: 1. misty, 2. centimeter, 3. herculean, 4. evaporation, 5. sequoia, 6. stoma, 7. transpire

8. ci\_\_\_\_\_te a rumor *v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
9. Se\_\_\_\_\_a National Park *n.* a huge evergreen tree that is native to California and has a straight trunk and a narrow, conical crown, which is a type of redwood
10. for\_\_\_\_\_le challenge *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
11. oxygenic pho\_\_\_\_\_sis *n.* the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
12. make he\_\_\_\_\_an progress *adj.* requiring great strength, effort, or endurance; of or relating to the legendary strength of the ancient Greek hero Hercules
13. technology be\_\_\_\_\_th *n.* something extremely large and powerful; a huge or monstrous creature, often mythical in nature
14. thirty cen\_\_\_\_\_ers tall *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
15. ev\_\_\_\_\_te almost overnight *v.* to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
16. had a di\_\_y spell *adj.* having or causing a whirling sensation and not able to keep balance

ANSWERS: 8. circulate, 9. sequoia, 10. formidable, 11. photosynthesis, 12. herculean, 13. behemoth, 14. centimeter, 15. evaporate, 16. dizzy

17. dw\_\_\_\_e in importance      *v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
18. process of pho\_\_\_\_\_sis      *n.* the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
19. mi\_\_y forest      *adj.* characterized by, obscured by, or enveloped in mist or fog; hazy or unclear, often referring to the quality of a memory or thought
20. os\_\_\_\_s process      *n.* the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another
21. s\_p strength      *v.* to gradually weaken or drain strength, energy, or resources; to undermine or impair someone's confidence or morale
22. a ca\_\_\_\_\_ry tube      *n.* a tube of small internal diameter; any of the minute tubes that carry blood
23. ph\_\_\_m cell      *n.* the tissue in plants that conducts sugars and other metabolic products downward from the leaves
24. os\_\_\_\_s tube      *n.* the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another

ANSWERS: 17. dwindle, 18. photosynthesis, 19. misty, 20. osmosis, 21. sap, 22. capillary, 23. phloem, 24. osmosis



25. ci\_\_\_\_\_te an agenda before the meeting  
*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
26. ev\_\_\_\_\_te the water  
*v.* to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
27. tracheostomy st\_\_a  
*n.* a small opening, pore, or pore-like structure, usually found on the surface of plants, through which gases are exchanged with the environment; in animals, a small opening or pore, such as the mouth or nostril
28. fi\_\_\_\_\_nt lamp  
*n.* a thin wire or thread, especially one used to produce light in an electric bulb
29. for\_\_\_\_\_le competitor  
*adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
30. a wa\_\_\_\_\_y fluid  
*adj.* full of or containing water; wet
31. be\_\_\_\_\_th company  
*n.* something extremely large and powerful; a huge or monstrous creature, often mythical in nature
32. ph\_\_\_\_\_m tissue  
*n.* the tissue in plants that conducts sugars and other metabolic products downward from the leaves
33. xy\_\_m cell  
*n.* the tissue in plants that conducts water and dissolved nutrients from the roots upward through the stem and into the leaves
34. slow eva\_\_\_\_\_on  
*n.* the process of a liquid changing into a gas or vapor, often as a result of high temperatures or reduced pressure; the gradual disappearance or dissipation of something, such as money or resources

ANSWERS: 25. circulate, 26. evaporate, 27. stoma, 28. filament, 29. formidable, 30. watery, 31. behemoth, 32. phloem, 33. xylem, 34. evaporation

35. dw\_\_\_\_e to almost nothing      *v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
36. carbon fi\_\_\_\_nt      *n.* a thin wire or thread, especially one used to produce light in an electric bulb
37. go to a wa\_\_\_\_y grave      *adj.* full of or containing water; wet
38. feel di\_\_y      *adj.* having or causing a whirling sensation and not able to keep balance
39. ca\_\_\_\_ry action      *n.* a tube of small internal diameter; any of the minute tubes that carry blood
40. xy\_\_m vessels      *n.* the tissue in plants that conducts water and dissolved nutrients from the roots upward through the stem and into the leaves
41. tr\_\_\_\_re in the news      *v.* to happen or be revealed
42. s\_p flow      *v.* to gradually weaken or drain strength, energy, or resources; to undermine or impair someone's confidence or morale

ANSWERS: 35. dwindle, 36. filament, 37. watery, 38. dizzy, 39. capillary, 40. xylem, 41. transpire, 42. sap

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The mountain range was a \_\_\_\_\_ obstacle for the hikers.  
*adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
  
2. The roots of plants absorb water and nutrients through \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another
  
3. The room was only one \_\_\_\_\_ wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.  
*n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
  
4. There are many \_\_\_\_\_ vessels in the gills of fish.  
*n.* a tube of small internal diameter; any of the minute tubes that carry blood
  
5. Professional skaters can spin fast on the ice without getting \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* having or causing a whirling sensation and not able to keep balance
  
6. It finally \_\_\_\_\_ that an employee had stolen the missing money.  
*v.* to happen or be revealed
  
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ in trees gives them strength and allows them to transport water and nutrients.  
*n.* the tissue in plants that conducts water and dissolved nutrients from the roots upward through the stem and into the leaves

ANSWERS: 1. formidable, 2. osmosis, 3. centimeter, 4. capillary, 5. dizzy, 6. transpired, 7. xylem

8. In \_\_\_\_\_ plants use carbon dioxide to feed themselves.  
*n.* the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
9. The crowds at the festival \_\_\_\_\_ as the night went on.  
*v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
10. The fan \_\_\_\_\_ the air in the room quickly.  
*v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
11. The disease has \_\_\_\_\_ all his energy, and he can barely get out of bed.  
*v.* to gradually weaken or drain strength, energy, or resources; to undermine or impair someone's confidence or morale
12. The soup was too \_\_\_\_\_ and needed more flavor.  
*adj.* full of or containing water; wet
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ transports the sugars produced in the leaves to other plant parts.  
*n.* the tissue in plants that conducts sugars and other metabolic products downward from the leaves
14. The construction site was filled with \_\_\_\_\_ machines.  
*n.* something extremely large and powerful; a huge or monstrous creature, often mythical in nature
15. Completing this project in such a short amount of time will be a \_\_\_\_\_ task.  
*adj.* requiring great strength, effort, or endurance; of or relating to the legendary strength of the ancient Greek hero Hercules

ANSWERS: 8. photosynthesis, 9. dwindled, 10. circulates, 11. sapped, 12. watery, 13. phloem, 14. behemoth, 15. herculean

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ morning made it hard to see the road ahead.

*adj.* characterized by, obscured by, or enveloped in mist or fog; hazy or unclear, often referring to the quality of a memory or thought

17. The sun will \_\_\_\_\_ the mist.

*v.* to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually

18. The \_\_\_\_\_ in the light bulb burned out, and now it's not working.

*n.* a thin wire or thread, especially one used to produce light in an electric bulb

19. The \_\_\_\_\_ tree is known for its massive size and long lifespan.

*n.* a huge evergreen tree that is native to California and has a straight trunk and a narrow, conical crown, which is a type of redwood

20. The surgeon created a \_\_\_\_\_ in the patient's abdomen for feeding and waste elimination.

*n.* a small opening, pore, or pore-like structure, usually found on the surface of plants, through which gases are exchanged with the environment; in animals, a small opening or pore, such as the mouth or nostril

21. The formation of clouds is facilitated by the process of \_\_\_\_\_ and condensation

*n.* the process of a liquid changing into a gas or vapor, often as a result of high temperatures or reduced pressure; the gradual disappearance or dissipation of something, such as money or resources

ANSWERS: 16. misty, 17. evaporate, 18. filament, 19. sequoia, 20. stoma, 21. evaporation