

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dan Kwartler: What would happen if every human suddenly disappeared? | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/dan\\_kwartler\\_what\\_would\\_happen\\_if\\_every\\_human\\_suddenly\\_disappeared](https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_kwartler_what_would_happen_if_every_human_suddenly_disappeared)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### humming

*adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

*synonym* : buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

### tundra

*n.* a vast, treeless, and typically frozen plain in the Arctic regions, where the subsoil is permanently frozen

*synonym* : arctic plain, permafrost, polar desert

(1) the Siberian **tundra**, (2) **tundra** biome

The Arctic **tundra** is a vast and desolate landscape with few signs of life.

### backfire

*v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion

*synonym* : recoil, boomerang, misfire

(1) **backfire** big time, (2) **backfire** spectacularly

The company's decision to lay off a large number of employees **backfired** as it led to a decrease in productivity.

### refinery

*n.* a facility that is used to process, purify, and refine raw materials such as oil or metal into a more useful or

valuable form

*synonym*: plant, factory, processing plant

(1) hydrogen **refinery**, (2) **refinery** operations

The oil **refinery** was shut down due to safety concerns after a major accident.

## malfunction

v. to fail to operate or work properly; to break down or stop functioning as expected or intended; (noun) a failure or defect in the way a machine, system, or device is supposed to operate

*synonym*: malfunction, break down, fail

(1) **malfunction** alarm, (2) **malfunction** and start moving unpredictably

The car's engine **malfunctioned** on the highway, so we had to call for a tow truck.

## blaze

v. to burst into flame or light up intensely; to move in a trailblazing manner; to shine brightly or conspicuously

*synonym*: burn, flame, ignite

(1) **blaze** a trail, (2) **blaze** with fury

The forest fire continued to **blaze** out of control, threatening nearby homes.

## catastrophic

*adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

*synonym*: fatal, disastrous, destructive

(1) victim of **catastrophic** injuries, (2) **catastrophic** climate change

The extinction rate of aquatic animals was **catastrophic**.

## erode

v. to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time

*synonym*: wear away, deteriorate, corrode

(1) **erode** coast, (2) **erode** trust

The ongoing budget cuts have **eroded** the quality of education in many schools.

## temperate

*adj.* mild or moderate in temperature or climate; exhibiting self-restraint, particularly about the consumption of food, drink, or other indulgences; showing moderation or restraint in behavior or attitude

*synonym* : moderate, mild, genial

(1) **temperate** grassland, (2) **temperate** behavior

The **temperate** climate of the region made it an ideal vacation spot.

## thaw

*v.* to become less rigid or hostile; to melt, soften, or become more friendly

*synonym* : melt, defrost, unfreeze

(1) **thaw** out a glacier, (2) **thaw** relations between countries

The sun was beginning to **thaw** the frozen ground.

## pave

*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

*synonym* : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

## skyscraper

*n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city

*synonym* : high-rise, tower

(1) **skyscraper** apartment house, (2) steel-framed **skyscraper**

The 50-floor **skyscraper** loomed over the city, dwarfing the other buildings.

## buckle

*v.* to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap

*synonym* : bend, crumple, contort

(1) **buckle** down to study, (2) **buckle** shoe

The severe heat wave **buckled** railway tracks.

## tumble

*v.* to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance

*synonym*: fall, stumble, plummet

(1) **tumble** down the hill, (2) confidence **tumbles** as unemployment rates rose

The value of the currency **tumbled** against major international currencies.

## tributary

*n.* a stream or river that flows into a larger one

*synonym*: stream, branch, feeder

(1) major **tributary**, (2) **tributary** stream

The **tributary** river flowed into the main river.

## mold

*n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

*synonym*: cavity, cast, mildew

(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy

Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.

## rodent

*n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail

*synonym*: mouse, rat, hamster

(1) **rodent** repellent, (2) prevent **rodent** damage

He set up a trap to catch the **rodent**.

## infestation

*n.* the presence or invasion of a large number of harmful or undesirable pests, parasites, or microorganisms in a specific area or host

*synonym*: plague, invasion, swarm

(1) **infestation** with a parasite, (2) flea **infestation**

The hotel had an **infestation** of bed bugs, which required a professional exterminator.

## rot

*v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

*synonym*: perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

## sag

*v.* to droop or hang down, especially due to a lack of support or the weight of something

*synonym*: droop, slump, bend

(1) **sag** my jaw, (2) **sag** with fatigue

The old mattress **sagged** in the middle, making it uncomfortable to sleep on.

## lizard

*n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail

(1) giant **lizard**, (2) **lizard** leather

The **lizard's** tail regenerates if severed.

## hyacinth

*n.* (also "jacinth") a fragrant flowering plant with clustered flowers that grow on a tall, spiky stem, typically in shades of blue, purple, or pink

*synonym*: jacinth

(1) **hyacinth** flower, (2) blue **hyacinth**

The beautiful purple **hyacinth** flowers bloomed every spring in the garden.

## poisonous

*adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction

*synonym*: toxic, venomous, deadly

(1) **poisonous** plants, (2) **poisonous** chemicals

Some species of **poisonous snakes** can be deadly to

humans if bitten.

## hogweed

*n.* a large, invasive plant species with toxic sap that can cause severe skin irritation, blistering, and scarring; other toxic plant species in the same family called Apiaceae

*synonym*: cow parsnip, wild parsnip

(1) spread of **hogweed** in the local ecosystem, (2) invasive **hogweed**

The hiker got a severe rash after accidentally brushing against a giant **hogweed** plant.

## overgrow

*v.* to grow or thrive over so as to cover with herbage

*synonym*: overrun, choke, overwhelm

(1) **overgrow** neighboring corals, (2) aquatic plants **overgrow**

Weeds **overgrow** throughout the garden.

## crumble

*v.* to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support

*synonym*: disintegrate, collapse, deteriorate

(1) **crumble** to dust, (2) began to **crumble** under financial pressure

The old building was starting to **crumble** due to years of neglect and lack of maintenance.

## plummet

*v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

*synonym*: drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

## unchecked

*adj.* not restrained or controlled; not examined or scrutinized; allowed to proceed without restraint or interference

*synonym*: uncontrolled, unrestrained, unbridled

(1) **unchecked** ambition, (2) **unchecked** growth

The **unchecked** spread of the virus led to a nationwide outbreak.

## leftover

*adj.* not consumed or used at the end of something

*synonym*: extra, residual, unused

(1) **leftover** from a party, (2) **leftover** goods

The chef will make soup with the **leftover** ham bone.

## doom

*n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

*synonym*: judgment, destiny, fate

(1) economic **doom**, (2) prophet of **doom**

Everyone was aware of the impending **doom** but was unable to prevent it.

## domesticate

*v.* to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company

*synonym*: tame, naturalize, cultivate

(1) easy to **domesticate**, (2) **domesticate** the plant

We **domesticate** cows to gain milk and meat.

## resourceful

*adj.* showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems

*synonym*: inventive, imaginative, clever

(1) **resourceful** thinker, (2) **resourceful** cook in town

She was **resourceful** and found a solution to the problem on her own.

## converse

*v.* to talk informally

*synonym*: discourse, discuss, exchange

(1) **converse** with an acquaintance, (2) ask a **converse** question

She enjoyed the opportunity to **converse** with a person who spoke her language.

## disrupt

*v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

*synonym* : interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep  
I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

## mosquito

*n.* a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria

*synonym* : insect, bug, flea

(1) **mosquito** bite, (2) **mosquito** repellent

A stagnant water area are breeding ground for **mosquitos**.

## endlessly

*adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

*synonym* : ceaselessly, interminably, unceasingly

(1) repeat **endlessly**, (2) worry **endlessly** about our future  
The procession of demonstrators was **endlessly** continuing.

## human-made

*adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial

*synonym* : artificial, unnatural, manufactured

(1) **human-made** climate change, (2) the worst **human-made** disaster

The bridge is a **human-made** structure and was built to span the river.

## fauna

*n.* the animal life of a particular region, habitat, or geological period

*synonym* : wildlife, creatures, animals

(1) the tropical **fauna**, (2) **fauna** reserve

The national park is home to a diverse **fauna** of animal species.

## flourish

*v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

*synonym* : boom, advance, succeed

(1) **flourish** economically, (2) **flourish** worldwide



The Ottoman Empire **flourished** for over five centuries.

## unyielding

*adj.* rigid or inflexible in attitude, behavior, or opinion; not willing to compromise or change; resistant to pressure or persuasion

*synonym* : adamant, stubborn, inflexible

(1) **unyielding** determination, (2) **unyielding** resistance

The **unyielding** negotiations led to a stalemate between the two countries.

## recognizable

*adj.* easy to become aware of or identify

*synonym* : noticeable, perceptible, definite

(1) to a **recognizable** degree, (2) **recognizable** landmark

His car was easily **recognizable** in the parking lot.

## bury

*v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

*synonym* : entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

## remnant

*n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something

*synonym* : remainder, leftover, residue

(1) **remnant** of the past, (2) **remnants** of fabric

The only **remnant** left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.

## floodplain

*n.* an area of flat land adjacent to a river or stream that is subject to periodic flooding

*synonym* : lowland, swamp, delta

(1) **floodplain** area, (2) **floodplain** management

The town was built on a **floodplain**, making it vulnerable to natural disasters.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. aquatic plants ov\_\_\_\_\_ow  
*v.* to grow or thrive over so as to cover with herbage
2. le\_\_\_\_\_er goods  
*adj.* not consumed or used at the end of something
3. cr\_\_\_\_\_e to dust  
*v.* to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support
4. to a rec\_\_\_\_\_ble degree  
*adj.* easy to become aware of or identify
5. victim of cat\_\_\_\_\_hic injuries  
*adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
6. b\_\_y emotion  
*v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
7. bl\_\_e with fury  
*v.* to burst into flame or light up intensely; to move in a trailblazing manner; to shine brightly or conspicuously
8. mal\_\_\_\_\_on alarm  
*v.* to fail to operate or work properly; to break down or stop functioning as expected or intended; (noun) a failure or defect in the way a machine, system, or device is supposed to operate
9. po\_\_\_\_\_us chemicals  
*adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
10. ov\_\_\_\_\_ow neighboring corals  
*v.* to grow or thrive over so as to cover with herbage

ANSWERS: 1. overgrow, 2. leftover, 3. crumble, 4. recognizable, 5. catastrophic, 6. bury, 7. blaze, 8. malfunction, 9. poisonous, 10. overgrow

- |   |             |   |
|---|-------------|---|
| 11. sky_____er apartment house                    | <i>n.</i>   | a very tall building, typically one in a city   |
| 12. flo_____in area                               | <i>n.</i>   | an area of flat land adjacent to a river or stream that is subject to periodic flooding   |
| 13. a casting m__d                                | <i>n.</i>   | a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long |
| 14. hu_____g bird                                 | <i>adj.</i> | producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee   |
| 15. spread of ho_____d in the local ecosystem     | <i>n.</i>   | a large, invasive plant species with toxic sap that can cause severe skin irritation, blistering, and scarring; other toxic plant species in the same family called Apiaceae  |
| 16. the worst hum_____de disaster                 | <i>adj.</i> | created or produced by humans; artificial   |
| 17. began to cr_____e under financial pressure    | <i>v.</i>   | to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support   |
| 18. p__e a smoother road                          | <i>v.</i>   | to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use  |
| 19. confidence tu___es as unemployment rates rose | <i>v.</i>   | to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance  |

ANSWERS: 11. skyscraper, 12. floodplain, 13. mold, 14. humming, 15. hogweed, 16. human-made, 17. crumble, 18. pave, 19. tumble

20. uny\_\_\_\_\_ng resistance      *adj.* rigid or inflexible in attitude, behavior, or opinion; not willing to compromise or change; resistant to pressure or persuasion
21. fl\_\_\_\_\_sh worldwide      *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
22. res\_\_\_\_\_ul thinker      *adj.* showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems
23. repeat en\_\_\_\_\_ly      *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
24. t\_\_w relations between countries      *v.* to become less rigid or hostile; to melt, soften, or become more friendly
25. prophet of d\_\_m      *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
26. dom\_\_\_\_\_te the plant      *v.* to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company
27. fa\_\_a reserve      *n.* the animal life of a particular region, habitat, or geological period
28. di\_\_\_\_\_t sleep      *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
29. di\_\_\_\_\_t a well-ordered condition      *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
30. blue hy\_\_\_\_\_th      *n.* (also "jacinth") a fragrant flowering plant with clustered flowers that grow on a tall, spiky stem, typically in shades of blue, purple, or pink

ANSWERS: 20. unyielding, 21. flourish, 22. resourceful, 23. endlessly, 24. thaw, 25. doom, 26. domesticate, 27. fauna, 28. disrupt, 29. disrupt, 30. hyacinth

31. economic d\_\_m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
32. flo\_\_\_\_\_in management *n.* an area of flat land adjacent to a river or stream that is subject to periodic flooding
33. tr\_\_\_\_\_ry stream *n.* a stream or river that flows into a larger one
34. prevent ro\_\_\_t damage *n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail
35. mo\_\_\_\_\_to bite *n.* a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria
36. m\_\_d allergy *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
37. un\_\_\_\_\_ed growth *adj.* not restrained or controlled; not examined or scrutinized; allowed to proceed without restraint or interference
38. er\_\_\_e coast *v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
39. ba\_\_\_\_\_re spectacularly *v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion

ANSWERS: 31. doom, 32. floodplain, 33. tributary, 34. rodent, 35. mosquito, 36. mold, 37. unchecked, 38. erode, 39. backfire

40. po\_\_\_\_\_us plants *adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
41. hydrogen re\_\_\_\_\_ry *n.* a facility that is used to process, purify, and refine raw materials such as oil or metal into a more useful or valuable form
42. er\_\_e trust *v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
43. mo\_\_\_\_\_to repellent *n.* a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria
44. hum\_\_\_\_\_de climate change *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
45. bl\_\_e a trail *v.* to burst into flame or light up intensely; to move in a trailblazing manner; to shine brightly or conspicuously
46. pl\_\_\_\_\_t against other major currencies *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
47. co\_\_\_\_\_se with an acquaintance *v.* to talk informally
48. ask a co\_\_\_\_\_se question *v.* to talk informally
49. easy to dom\_\_\_\_\_te *v.* to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company

ANSWERS: 40. poisonous, 41. refinery, 42. erode, 43. mosquito, 44. human-made, 45. blaze, 46. plummet, 47. converse, 48. converse, 49. domesticate

50. mal\_\_\_\_\_on and start moving unpredictably      *v.* to fail to operate or work properly; to break down or stop functioning as expected or intended; (noun) a failure or defect in the way a machine, system, or device is supposed to operate
51. bu\_\_\_e down to study      *v.* to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap
52. begin to r\_t      *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
53. giant li\_\_\_d      *n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail
54. tu\_\_\_a biome      *n.* a vast, treeless, and typically frozen plain in the Arctic regions, where the subsoil is permanently frozen
55. te\_\_\_\_\_te behavior      *adj.* mild or moderate in temperature or climate; exhibiting self-restraint, particularly about the consumption of food, drink, or other indulgences; showing moderation or restraint in behavior or attitude
56. rec\_\_\_\_\_ble landmark      *adj.* easy to become aware of or identify
57. li\_\_\_d leather      *n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail
58. s\_g my jaw      *v.* to droop or hang down, especially due to a lack of support or the weight of something
59. inf\_\_\_\_\_on with a parasite      *n.* the presence or invasion of a large number of harmful or undesirable pests, parasites, or microorganisms in a specific area or host

ANSWERS: 50. malfunction, 51. buckle, 52. rot, 53. lizard, 54. tundra, 55. temperate, 56. recognizable, 57. lizard, 58. sag, 59. infestation

60. hu\_\_\_\_g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
61. s\_g with fatigue *v.* to droop or hang down, especially due to a lack of support or the weight of something
62. r\_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
63. fl\_\_\_\_sh economically *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
64. le\_\_\_\_er from a party *adj.* not consumed or used at the end of something
65. worry en\_\_\_\_ly about our future *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
66. uny\_\_\_\_ng determination *adj.* rigid or inflexible in attitude, behavior, or opinion; not willing to compromise or change; resistant to pressure or persuasion
67. re\_\_\_\_ry operations *n.* a facility that is used to process, purify, and refine raw materials such as oil or metal into a more useful or valuable form
68. te\_\_\_\_te grassland *adj.* mild or moderate in temperature or climate; exhibiting self-restraint, particularly about the consumption of food, drink, or other indulgences; showing moderation or restraint in behavior or attitude
69. ro\_\_\_\_t repellent *n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail

ANSWERS: 60. humming, 61. sag, 62. rot, 63. flourish, 64. leftover, 65. endlessly, 66. unyielding, 67. refinery, 68. temperate, 69. rodent



70. tu\_\_\_e down the hill  
*v.* to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance
71. b\_\_y in the earth  
*v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
72. bu\_\_\_e shoe  
*v.* to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap
73. re\_\_\_\_t of the past  
*n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
74. hy\_\_\_\_th flower  
*n.* (also "jacinth") a fragrant flowering plant with clustered flowers that grow on a tall, spiky stem, typically in shades of blue, purple, or pink
75. res\_\_\_\_ul cook in town  
*adj.* showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems
76. the tropical fa\_\_a  
*n.* the animal life of a particular region, habitat, or geological period
77. t\_\_w out a glacier  
*v.* to become less rigid or hostile; to melt, soften, or become more friendly
78. un\_\_\_\_ed ambition  
*adj.* not restrained or controlled; not examined or scrutinized; allowed to proceed without restraint or interference

ANSWERS: 70. tumble, 71. bury, 72. buckle, 73. remnant, 74. hyacinth, 75. resourceful, 76. fauna, 77. thaw, 78. unchecked

79. steel-framed sky\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city
80. re\_\_\_\_\_ts of fabric *n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
81. flea inf\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* the presence or invasion of a large number of harmful or undesirable pests, parasites, or microorganisms in a specific area or host
82. cat\_\_\_\_\_hic climate change *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
83. ba\_\_\_\_\_re big time *v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion
84. p\_\_e a new path *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
85. major tr\_\_\_\_\_ry *n.* a stream or river that flows into a larger one
86. pl\_\_\_\_\_ting sales *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
87. invasive ho\_\_\_\_\_d *n.* a large, invasive plant species with toxic sap that can cause severe skin irritation, blistering, and scarring; other toxic plant species in the same family called Apiaceae
88. the Siberian tu\_\_\_\_a *n.* a vast, treeless, and typically frozen plain in the Arctic regions, where the subsoil is permanently frozen

ANSWERS: 79. skyscraper, 80. remnant, 81. infestation, 82. catastrophic, 83. backfire, 84. pave, 85. tributary, 86. plummet, 87. hogweed, 88. tundra

ANSWERS:

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The old mattress \_\_\_\_\_ in the middle, making it uncomfortable to sleep on.
  - v. to droop or hang down, especially due to a lack of support or the weight of something
  
2. I'm so sorry to \_\_\_\_\_ you when you're pretty busy.
  - v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
  
3. The hiker got a severe rash after accidentally brushing against a giant \_\_\_\_\_ plant.
  - n. a large, invasive plant species with toxic sap that can cause severe skin irritation, blistering, and scarring; other toxic plant species in the same family called Apiaceae
  
4. The sun was beginning to \_\_\_\_\_ the frozen ground.
  - v. to become less rigid or hostile; to melt, soften, or become more friendly
  
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ negotiations led to a stalemate between the two countries.
  - adj. rigid or inflexible in attitude, behavior, or opinion; not willing to compromise or change; resistant to pressure or persuasion
  
6. The car's engine \_\_\_\_\_ on the highway, so we had to call for a tow truck.
  - v. to fail to operate or work properly; to break down or stop functioning as expected or intended; (noun) a failure or defect in the way a machine, system, or device is supposed to operate
  
7. Weeds \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the garden.
  - v. to grow or thrive over so as to cover with herbage

ANSWERS: 1. sagged, 2. disrupt, 3. hogweed, 4. thaw, 5. unyielding, 6. malfunctioned, 7. overgrow

8. The procession of demonstrators was \_\_\_\_\_ continuing.  
*adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
9. She enjoyed the opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ with a person who spoke her language.  
*v.* to talk informally
10. The only \_\_\_\_\_ left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.  
*n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ climate of the region made it an ideal vacation spot.  
*adj.* mild or moderate in temperature or climate; exhibiting self-restraint, particularly about the consumption of food, drink, or other indulgences; showing moderation or restraint in behavior or attitude
12. The town was built on a \_\_\_\_\_ making it vulnerable to natural disasters.  
*n.* an area of flat land adjacent to a river or stream that is subject to periodic flooding
13. The national park is home to a diverse \_\_\_\_\_ of animal species.  
*n.* the animal life of a particular region, habitat, or geological period
14. She was \_\_\_\_\_ and found a solution to the problem on her own.  
*adj.* showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems
15. The Arctic \_\_\_\_\_ is a vast and desolate landscape with few signs of life.  
*n.* a vast, treeless, and typically frozen plain in the Arctic regions, where the subsoil is permanently frozen

ANSWERS: 8. endlessly, 9. converse, 10. remnant, 11. temperate, 12. floodplain, 13. fauna, 14. resourceful, 15. tundra

16. The Ottoman Empire \_\_\_\_\_ for over five centuries.

*v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

17. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will \_\_\_\_\_.

*v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

18. The 50-floor \_\_\_\_\_ loomed over the city, dwarfing the other buildings.

*n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city

19. Everyone was aware of the impending \_\_\_\_\_ but was unable to prevent it.

*n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

20. The old building was starting to \_\_\_\_\_ due to years of neglect and lack of maintenance.

*v.* to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support

21. Mushrooms and \_\_\_\_\_ are fungi.

*n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

22. The hotel had an \_\_\_\_\_ of bed bugs, which required a professional exterminator.

*n.* the presence or invasion of a large number of harmful or undesirable pests, parasites, or microorganisms in a specific area or host

23. The bridge is a \_\_\_\_\_ structure and was built to span the river.

*adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial

ANSWERS: 16. flourished, 17. rot, 18. skyscraper, 19. doom, 20. crumble, 21. mold, 22. infestation, 23. human-made

24. The oil \_\_\_\_\_ was shut down due to safety concerns after a major accident.  
*n.* a facility that is used to process, purify, and refine raw materials such as oil or metal into a more useful or valuable form
25. The stock prices have \_\_\_\_\_ in the last hour, causing concern for investors.  
*v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
26. The extinction rate of aquatic animals was \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
27. He set up a trap to catch the \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail
28. The company's decision to lay off a large number of employees \_\_\_\_\_ as it led to a decrease in productivity.  
*v.* to have an opposite and undesirable effect to what was intended; to make a sudden noise like an explosion
29. His car was easily \_\_\_\_\_ in the parking lot.  
*adj.* easy to become aware of or identify
30. A stagnant water area are breeding ground for \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria
31. The \_\_\_\_\_ spread of the virus led to a nationwide outbreak.  
*adj.* not restrained or controlled; not examined or scrutinized; allowed to proceed without restraint or interference

ANSWERS: 24. refinery, 25. plummeted, 26. catastrophic, 27. rodent, 28. backfired, 29. recognizable, 30. mosquitos, 31. unchecked

32. Some species of \_\_\_\_\_ can be deadly to humans if bitten.

*adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction

33. The ongoing budget cuts have \_\_\_\_\_ the quality of education in many schools.

*v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time

34. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

*adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

35. We \_\_\_\_\_ cows to gain milk and meat.

*v.* to take control of animals or plants to provide food, power, or company

36. The value of the currency \_\_\_\_\_ against major international currencies.

*v.* to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance

37. The beautiful purple \_\_\_\_\_ flowers bloomed every spring in the garden.

*n.* (also "jacinth") a fragrant flowering plant with clustered flowers that grow on a tall, spiky stem, typically in shades of blue, purple, or pink

38. The \_\_\_\_\_ river flowed into the main river.

*n.* a stream or river that flows into a larger one

39. The severe heat wave \_\_\_\_\_ railway tracks.

*v.* to bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; (noun) a device used for fastening two loose ends of a belt or strap

ANSWERS: 32. poisonous snakes, 33. eroded, 34. humming, 35. domesticate, 36. tumbled, 37. hyacinth, 38. tributary, 39. buckled



40. The \_\_\_\_\_ tail regenerates if severed.

*n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail

41. The chef will make soup with the \_\_\_\_\_ ham bone.

*adj.* not consumed or used at the end of something

42. There is plenty of space to \_\_\_\_\_ everyone.

*v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

43. The forest fire continued to \_\_\_\_\_ out of control, threatening nearby homes.

*v.* to burst into flame or light up intensely; to move in a trailblazing manner; to shine brightly or conspicuously

44. They \_\_\_\_\_ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

*v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

ANSWERS: 40. lizard's, 41. leftover, 42. bury, 43. blaze, 44. paved