

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Congrui Jin: What if cracks in concrete could fix themselves? | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/congrui\\_jin\\_what\\_if\\_cracks\\_in\\_concrete\\_could\\_fix\\_themselves](https://www.ted.com/talks/congrui_jin_what_if_cracks_in_concrete_could_fix_themselves)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### swath

*n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something

*synonym*: strip, band, fodder

(1) a large **swath** of territory, (2) a **swath** of green grass

The charity organization has helped to provide education to a vast **swath** of the population.

### 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.

## 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**.

## limestone

*n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite

*synonym* : calcareous rock, chalk

(1) sheer **limestone** cliffs, (2) **limestone** pavement

The Great Pyramid of Giza was built using blocks of **limestone**.

## hydrate

*v.* to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization

*synonym* : moisturize, water, rehydrate

(1) **hydrate** my skin, (2) acid **hydrate**

She drank water to **hydrate** her body.

## lifespan

*n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

*synonym* : duration, lifetime, continuance

(1) **lifespan** extension, (2) **lifespan** retrieval curve

Generally speaking, men have a shorter **lifespan** than women.

## shrinkage

*n.* the process of becoming smaller or less in size or quantity; the amount by which something has shrunk, contracted, or diminished

*synonym* : loss, decrease, reduction

(1) muscle **shrinkage**, (2) budget **shrinkage**

The **shrinkage** in the wool sweater was caused by washing it in hot water.

## 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.

## corrode

*v.* to destroy or eat away slowly by chemical action; to gradually wear away, weaken, or disintegrate over time

*synonym* : erode, rust, eat away

(1) **corrode** steel drums, (2) **corrode** pipes

The saltwater can **corrode** metal over time if not properly maintained.

## disastrous

*adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

*synonym* : catastrophic, destructive, fatal

(1) have **disastrous** consequences, (2) absolutely **disastrous** effect

The emission of hazardous substances has **disastrous** effects on the ecology of a region.

## catastrophe

*n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

*synonym* : disaster, calamity, cataclysm

(1) **catastrophe** risk management, (2) avoid climate **catastrophe**

The lack of funds has resulted in a **catastrophe** for our university system.

## 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.

## hydroxide

*n.* a chemical compound characterized by the presence of one or more hydroxyl groups (-OH), which can either act as a base or be neutralized by an acid to form a salt or water

*synonym* : base, lye, alkali

(1) **hydroxide** catalyst, (2) sodium **hydroxide** solution  
Aluminum **hydroxide** is used in the treatment of stomach ulcers and heartburn.

## autogenous

*adj.* self-generated or originating from within the same organism or system

*synonym*: self-generated, self-produced, self-derived

(1) **autogenous** vaccine, (2) **autogenous** grinding

The welder used **autogenous** techniques to fuse the metal pieces without using filler material.

## microscopic

*adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

*synonym*: infinitesimal, tiny, atomic

(1) **microscopic** inquiry, (2) **microscopic** analysis

Inspectors noticed **microscopic** cracks in the submarine's hull.

## carbonate

*n.* a carbonic acid salt or ester that contains the anion CO<sub>3</sub>

(1) sodium **carbonate**, (2) alkaline **carbonate**

The explosive chemical reaction does not occur in all sodium **carbonate**.

## fungus

*n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

*synonym*: mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

## spore

*n.* a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae

*synonym*: seed, reproductive cell, particle

(1) anthrax **spore**, (2) **spore** reproduction

Bacteria and some algae also produce **spores** as a means of survival and dispersal, and they are often found in soil, water, and other environments.

## dormant

*adj.* in a state of temporary inactivity, rest, or sleep; not growing or progressing but capable of doing so under the right circumstances

*synonym*: inactive, sleeping, quiescent

(1) **dormant** volcano, (2) **dormant** account

The disease can remain **dormant** for years before it presents any symptoms.

## trickle

*v.* to flow or drip slowly and in small amounts; to happen or occur gradually or in small quantities

*synonym*: dribble, flow, seep

(1) **trickle** down my cheek, (2) **trickle** from his eyes

Water was beginning to **trickle** into the basement after the heavy rain.

## germinate

*v.* to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts

*synonym*: sprout, grow, develop

(1) days to **germinate**, (2) **germinate** the idea

The seeds **germinated** quickly in the warm soil.

## microbe

*n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

*synonym*: germ, microorganism, bacterium

(1) pathogenic **microbe**, (2) **microbes** sterilizer

**Microbes** thrive on the surface of the human skin.

## resilient

*adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

*synonym*: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population

She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from

setbacks.

## long-lasting

*adj.* existing or continuing for a long time

*synonym* : enduring, abiding, durable

(1) **long-lasting** battery, (2) a **long-lasting** friendship  
They finally decided to solve the **long-lasting** problem.

## drastic

*adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact

*synonym* : extreme, fierce, radical

(1) **drastic** measures, (2) make **drastic** revision  
The global community is undergoing **drastic** changes at present.

## microorganism

*n.* a very small living thing that may exist in its single-celled form or as a colony of cells and is too small to be seen without a microscope

*synonym* : germ, microbe, bacterium

(1) pathogenic **microorganism**, (2) **microorganisms** in his gut  
This **microorganism** is a producer of respiratory disease.

## reconsider

*v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to

*synonym* : rethink, review, revisit

(1) **reconsider** the determination, (2) **reconsider** my transfer  
He humbly **reconsidered** his conduct.

## inanimate

*adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate

*synonym* : lifeless, inert, passive

(1) **inanimate** nature, (2) **inanimate** matter  
The **inanimate** object was not capable of movement or feeling.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. acid hy_____e                   | <i>v.</i> to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization        |
| 2. dr_____c measures               | <i>adj.</i> radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact   |
| 3. absolutely dis_____us effect    | <i>adj.</i> extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful  |
| 4. li_____ne pavement              | <i>n.</i> a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite  |
| 5. sodium ca_____te                | <i>n.</i> a carbonic acid salt or ester that contains the anion CO <sub>3</sub>  |
| 6. hy_____e my skin                | <i>v.</i> to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization        |
| 7. lon_____ing battery             | <i>adj.</i> existing or continuing for a long time   |
| 8. rec_____er my transfer          | <i>v.</i> to think about a decision or opinion again to  |
| 9. anthrax sp__e                   | <i>n.</i> a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae |
| 10. a lon_____ing friendship       | <i>adj.</i> existing or continuing for a long time   |
| 11. victim of cat_____hic injuries | <i>adj.</i> extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction   |

ANSWERS: 1. hydrate, 2. drastic, 3. disastrous, 4. limestone, 5. carbonate, 6. hydrate, 7. long-lasting, 8. reconsider, 9. spore, 10. long-lasting, 11. catastrophic

12. co\_\_\_\_\_e steel drums      *v.* to destroy or eat away slowly by chemical action; to gradually wear away, weaken, or disintegrate over time
13. tr\_\_\_\_\_e from his eyes      *v.* to flow or drip slowly and in small amounts; to happen or occur gradually or in small quantities
14. avoid climate cat\_\_\_\_\_he      *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
15. muscle sh\_\_\_\_\_ge      *n.* the process of becoming smaller or less in size or quantity; the amount by which something has shrunk, contracted, or diminished
16. cat\_\_\_\_\_hic climate change      *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
17. pathogenic mi\_\_\_\_\_e      *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
18. symbiotic fu\_\_\_\_s      *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
19. alkaline ca\_\_\_\_\_te      *n.* a carbonic acid salt or ester that contains the anion CO<sub>3</sub>
20. mic\_\_\_\_\_ic inquiry      *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
21. en\_\_\_\_\_er a close relationship      *v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation
22. sp\_\_e reproduction      *n.* a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae

ANSWERS: 12. corrode, 13. trickle, 14. catastrophe, 15. shrinkage, 16. catastrophic, 17. microbe, 18. fungus, 19. carbonate, 20. microscopic, 21. endanger, 22. spore



23. sodium hy\_\_\_\_\_de solution      *n.* a chemical compound characterized by the presence of one or more hydroxyl groups (-OH), which can either act as a base or be neutralized by an acid to form a salt or water
24. in\_\_\_\_\_te nature      *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
25. in\_\_\_\_\_te matter      *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
26. tr\_\_\_\_\_e down my cheek      *v.* to flow or drip slowly and in small amounts; to happen or occur gradually or in small quantities
27. do\_\_\_\_\_t account      *adj.* in a state of temporary inactivity, rest, or sleep; not growing or progressing but capable of doing so under the right circumstances
28. mic\_\_\_\_\_ic analysis      *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
29. 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
30. pathogenic mic\_\_\_\_\_ism      *n.* a very small living thing that may exist in its single-celled form or as a colony of cells and is too small to be seen without a microscope
31. en\_\_\_\_\_er my health      *v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation
32. co\_\_\_\_\_e pipes      *v.* to destroy or eat away slowly by chemical action; to gradually wear away, weaken, or disintegrate over time

ANSWERS: 23. hydroxide, 24. inanimate, 25. inanimate, 26. trickle, 27. dormant, 28. microscopic, 29. pave, 30. microorganism, 31. endanger, 32. corrode

33. budget sh\_\_\_\_\_ge *n.* the process of becoming smaller or less in size or quantity; the amount by which something has shrunk, contracted, or diminished
34. li\_\_\_\_\_an retrieval curve *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
35. mic\_\_\_\_\_isms in his gut *n.* a very small living thing that may exist in its single-celled form or as a colony of cells and is too small to be seen without a microscope
36. ge\_\_\_\_\_te the idea *v.* to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts
37. steel-framed sky\_\_\_\_\_er *n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city
38. aut\_\_\_\_\_us grinding *adj.* self-generated or originating from within the same organism or system
39. p\_\_e a smoother road *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
40. t\_\_w out a glacier *v.* to become less rigid or hostile; to melt, soften, or become more friendly
41. hy\_\_\_\_\_de catalyst *n.* a chemical compound characterized by the presence of one or more hydroxyl groups (-OH), which can either act as a base or be neutralized by an acid to form a salt or water
42. have dis\_\_\_\_\_us consequences *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
43. a large sw\_\_h of territory *n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something

ANSWERS: 33. shrinkage, 34. lifespan, 35. microorganism, 36. germinate, 37. skyscraper, 38. autogenous, 39. pave, 40. thaw, 41. hydroxide, 42. disastrous, 43. swath

44. sky\_\_\_\_\_er apartment house      *n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city
45. t\_\_w relations between countries      *v.* to become less rigid or hostile; to melt, soften, or become more friendly
46. make dr\_\_\_\_\_c revision      *adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact
47. sheer li\_\_\_\_\_ne cliffs      *n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
48. cat\_\_\_\_\_he risk management      *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
49. li\_\_\_\_\_an extension      *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
50. aut\_\_\_\_\_us vaccine      *adj.* self-generated or originating from within the same organism or system
51. fu\_\_\_s infection      *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
52. re\_\_\_\_\_nt population      *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
53. mi\_\_\_\_\_es sterilizer      *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
54. a sw\_\_h of green grass      *n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something
55. rec\_\_\_\_\_er the determination      *v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to

ANSWERS: 44. skyscraper, 45. thaw, 46. drastic, 47. limestone, 48. catastrophe, 49. lifespan, 50. autogenous, 51. fungus, 52. resilient, 53. microbe, 54. swath, 55. reconsider

56. days to ge\_\_\_\_\_te

*v.* to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts

57. do\_\_\_\_\_t volcano

*adj.* in a state of temporary inactivity, rest, or sleep; not growing or progressing but capable of doing so under the right circumstances

58. a hard and re\_\_\_\_\_nt steel

*adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

ANSWERS: 56. germinate, 57. dormant, 58. resilient

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Bacteria and some algae also produce \_\_\_\_\_ as a means of survival and dispersal, and they are often found in soil, water, and other environments.
  - n.* a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae
2. He humbly \_\_\_\_\_ his conduct.
  - v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to
3. Their actions \_\_\_\_\_ the lives of innocent people.
  - v.* to put someone or something in a risky situation
4. The sun was beginning to \_\_\_\_\_ the frozen ground.
  - v.* to become less rigid or hostile; to melt, soften, or become more friendly
5. Certain types of \_\_\_\_\_ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.
  - n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
6. This \_\_\_\_\_ is a producer of respiratory disease.
  - n.* a very small living thing that may exist in its single-celled form or as a colony of cells and is too small to be seen without a microscope
7. The seeds \_\_\_\_\_ quickly in the warm soil.
  - v.* to begin to grow or develop, typically as a seed sprouts

ANSWERS: 1. spores, 2. reconsidered, 3. endangered, 4. thaw, 5. fungus, 6. microorganism, 7. germinated

8. The charity organization has helped to provide education to a vast \_\_\_\_\_ of the population.  
*n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something
9. The emission of hazardous substances has \_\_\_\_\_ effects on the ecology of a region.  
*adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
10. Aluminum \_\_\_\_\_ is used in the treatment of stomach ulcers and heartburn.  
*n.* a chemical compound characterized by the presence of one or more hydroxyl groups (-OH), which can either act as a base or be neutralized by an acid to form a salt or water
11. The 50-floor \_\_\_\_\_ loomed over the city, dwarfing the other buildings.  
*n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city
12. She is a \_\_\_\_\_ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.  
*adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
13. The global community is undergoing \_\_\_\_\_ changes at present.  
*adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact
14. The extinction rate of aquatic animals was \_\_\_\_\_.  
*adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
15. \_\_\_\_\_ thrive on the surface of the human skin.  
*n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

ANSWERS: 8. swath, 9. disastrous, 10. hydroxide, 11. skyscraper, 12. resilient, 13. drastic, 14. catastrophic, 15. Microbes

16. Water was beginning to \_\_\_\_\_ into the basement after the heavy rain.  
*v.* to flow or drip slowly and in small amounts; to happen or occur gradually or in small quantities
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ in the wool sweater was caused by washing it in hot water.  
*n.* the process of becoming smaller or less in size or quantity; the amount by which something has shrunk, contracted, or diminished
18. The Great Pyramid of Giza was built using blocks of \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
19. Generally speaking, men have a shorter \_\_\_\_\_ than women.  
*n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
20. The welder used \_\_\_\_\_ techniques to fuse the metal pieces without using filler material.  
*adj.* self-generated or originating from within the same organism or system
21. The disease can remain \_\_\_\_\_ for years before it presents any symptoms.  
*adj.* in a state of temporary inactivity, rest, or sleep; not growing or progressing but capable of doing so under the right circumstances
22. The lack of funds has resulted in a \_\_\_\_\_ for our university system.  
*n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
23. The saltwater can \_\_\_\_\_ metal over time if not properly maintained.  
*v.* to destroy or eat away slowly by chemical action; to gradually wear away, weaken, or disintegrate over time

ANSWERS: 16. trickle, 17. shrinkage, 18. limestone, 19. lifespan, 20. autogenous, 21. dormant, 22. catastrophe, 23. corrode

24. Inspectors noticed \_\_\_\_\_ cracks in the submarine's hull.

*adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

25. The \_\_\_\_\_ object was not capable of movement or feeling.

*adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate

26. They finally decided to solve the \_\_\_\_\_ problem.

*adj.* existing or continuing for a long time

27. 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

28. She drank water to \_\_\_\_\_ her body.

*v.* to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization

29. The explosive chemical reaction does not occur in all sodium \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* a carbonic acid salt or ester that contains the anion  $\text{CO}_3$

ANSWERS: 24. microscopic, 25. inanimate, 26. long-lasting, 27. paved, 28. hydrate, 29. carbonate