# **Englist.me**

# Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Greg Gage: How sound can hack your memory while you sleep | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/greg\_gage\_how\_sound\_ca

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### **All Words**

### **IMPORTANT**

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## **Session 1: Word List**

ace

n. a playing card with a single symbol or mark that is typically the highest in value or rank in a particular card game; a person who is very skilled or successful in a specific activity or field

synonym: expert, master, champion

(1) tennis ace, (2) ace in the hole

He was an ace at playing poker and often won the game.

geography

 a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena of the Earth

synonym: landscape, terrain, topography

(1) **geography** class, (2) economic **geography** She did well on her **geography** exam.

locate

v. to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something

*synonym*: discover, find, place

(1) locate a missing pet, (2) locate a tumor

The robot can accurately locate construction material.

embarrass

v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) embarrass political enemy, (2) embarrass my project

He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

### suddenly

adv. quickly and unexpectedly

synonym: abruptly, unexpectedly, unawares

(1) **suddenly** attacked by an enemy, (2) die **suddenly** Who answers **suddenly** knows little.

### strengthen

v. to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective

synonym: reinforce, harden, boost

(1) **strengthen** the immune system, (2) **strengthen** a border patrol

Difficulties **strengthen** the mind, as labor does the body.

### enhance

v. to increase or improve the quality, amount, or strength of someone or something

synonym: improve, enrich, refine

(1) **enhance** value, (2) **enhance** the flavor of the vanilla The new strategy will **enhance** the profitability of our company.

flash

a sudden intense burst of radiant energy; a momentary brightness

synonym: sparkle, gleam, glimmer

(1) a flash of lightning, (2) brilliant flash

These heavy rains caused **flash** floods on several islands.

### hack

v. to hit and cut somebody or something roughly and violently; to find a bug in a computer program and break into their systems or networks

synonym: cut, chop, crack

- (1) **hack** through the jungle, (2) **hack** into the program This blog offers a variety of tips for **hacking** everyday life.
- v. to prevent or restrict speech or expression, often through force or intimidation; to bind or cover the mouth

gag

to prevent speech; to cause someone to retch or choke; (noun) a device that is placed over someone's mouth to prevent them from speaking or making noise; an order that prohibits a person or group from discussing a particular topic or sharing certain information with others

*synonym*: muzzle, silence, suppress

(1) gag order, (2) gag a newspaper

The prisoner was **gagged** to prevent him from shouting for help.

### brain

 the organ inside the head that is responsible for one's movement, thought, memory, and feeling

synonym: intellect, mind, encephalon

(1) basic **brain** function, (2) permanent **brain** damage X-rays revealed a small tumor in his **brain**.

### transfer

v. to move, pass, or change from one person, place, or situation to another

synonym: move, relocate, shift

(1) transfer a file, (2) transfer power

She **transferred** the money from her savings account to her checking account.

### process

n. a series of actions or operations performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products

*synonym*: procedure, method, system

(1) **process** improvement, (2) decision-making **process** The **process** for applying for a visa can be lengthy and complicated.

### consolidate

to make something more vital, more solid, or more certain

synonym: crystallize, concentrate, cement

(1) consolidate his debt, (2) consolidate a leadership

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The two universities will **consolidate** in July next year.

### journal

 a newspaper or magazine specialized in a specific topic or profession

synonym: periodical, diary, bulletin

(1) scientific journal, (2) journal articles

The physician is reading the **journals** related to medicine

### ken

knowledge, perception, understanding, or range of sight;(verb) to be aware of or know

synonym: knowledge, understanding, familiarity

(1) within my ken, (2) ken of the person

He had a good **ken** of the city and could easily find his way around.

### colleague

 one of a group of a coworker, especially in a profession or a business

synonym: coworker, associate, fellow

collaborate with colleagues,
 former colleague
 decided to seek counseling on the advice of my colleague.

### pique

 a feeling of irritation or resentment, often caused by a perceived slight or insult; (verb) to cause to feel resentment or indignation

synonym: irritation, resentment, annoyance

(1) out of **pique**, (2) **pique** the curiosity He slammed the door in a fit of **pique**.

### curiosity

- n. a strong desire to know or learn about somethingsynonym: interest, inquisitiveness, novelty
- (1) boundless **curiosity**, (2) satisfy my intellectual **curiosity** We are motivated by **curiosity** rather than necessity.

### improve

v. to make or become better

*synonym*: enhance, ameliorate, enrich

(1) improve a process, (2) improve the test score

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We want to **improve** ties between our two countries.

### represent

ν. to speak, act, or be present on behalf of another person or group; to form or constitute

synonym: depict, express, describe

(1) **represent** by a diagram, (2) the characters that **represent** numbers

We elected him to **represent** us at the international conference.

### engine

 a machine that converts thermal energy to mechanical work; something that has an important role used to achieve a purpose

synonym: motor, locomotive, driver

(1) a steam **engine**, (2) an air-cooled **engine**The policies he announces can be the **engine** of economic growth in the country.

### experiment

*n.* the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge

synonym: experimentation, investigation

- (1) **experiment** design, (2) series of **experiments** His **experiments** showed highly positive results.
- n. a short sleep, especially during the daysynonym: rest, doze, drowse
- take a nap, (2) daytime nap
   woke the kids up from their nap.

### slow-wave

- n. a type of brain wave that occurs during deep sleep, characterized by low frequency and high amplitudesynonym: delta wave, delta rhythm
- (1) **slow-wave** sleep, (2) **slow-wave** circuit

The **slow-wave** activity in his brain indicated that he was in a deep sleep phase.

### nap

### phase

- n. any stage in a series of events, change, or developmentsynonym: degree, stage, step
- (1) enter on the last **phase**, (2) two- **phase** structure The era of the industrial revolution was a crucial **phase** of history.

### pause

 to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

synonym: halt, break, intermit

(1) **pause** a moment, (2) **pause** for a reaction The man **paused** before opening the door.

### **REM**

- n. (abbreviation for rapid eye movement) a stage of sleep characterized by rapid eye movements, increased brain activity, and dreaming
- (1) **REM** sleep cycle, (2) **REM** sleep behavior disorder **REM** sleep deprivation has been linked to various adverse effects on mood, memory, and cognitive function.

### electrical

adj. relating to electricity

(1) an **electrical** storm, (2) degree in **electrical** engineering Actuators convert **electrical** pulses into motion.

### delta

 a triangular area of low and flat land that is formed when a river flows into a larger body of water and deposits sediment; an object shaped like an equilateral triangle

synonym: floodplain, estuary

(1) river deltas, (2) delta cone

The Nile **Delta** is a rich and fertile region that has supported agriculture for thousands of years.

### tricky

 adj. requiring care and skill because challenging to do or deal with

synonym: thorny, problematic, crafty

(1) **tricky** problem, (2) a **tricky** recipe to follow We have discussed the entirety of this **tricky** problem.

шску

cue

 a signal, gesture, or action that provides information or direction for someone else to act or respond; a reminder or prompt for someone to do something

synonym: signal, sign, hint

(1) cue card, (2) visual cue

The director gave the actor a **cue** to begin the scene.

### hypothesis

 a proposed idea or explanation that is based on a few known facts but has not yet been proven to be true or accurate

*synonym*: assumption, conjecture, theory

(1) test my **hypothesis**, (2) a bold **hypothesis** 

This evidence supports the big-bang **hypothesis**.

### amazing

adj. extremely surprising, especially in a way that you like or admire

synonym: exceptional, extraordinary, wonderful

(1) **amazing** advances, (2) the most **amazing** feeling The golfer recorded an **amazing** distance.

### magic

 beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers

synonym: fascination, illusion, wizardry

(1) a magic spell, (2) she is magic

He performed magic tricks with sophisticated moves.

# skeptic

 a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural

*synonym*: doubter, disbeliever, questioner

(1) an ingrained **skeptic**, (2) climate **skeptic** 

He was a **skeptic** who doubted the existence of supernatural phenomena.

### fragile

adj. delicate or easily broken or damaged

synonym: delicate, brittle, breakable

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(1) politically **fragile** nation, (2) **fragile** ecosystem

The vase was made of **fragile** ceramic and easily broke when it was dropped.

### react

- to take action in response to something
- synonym: respond, reply, oppose
- (1) **react** at a high temperature, (2) **react** against his way of thinking

How did he **react** to your idea?

### stable

- adj. firm and steady; not easily moved, disturbed, or changed
- synonym: sturdy, unmoving, durable
- (1) in **stable** condition, (2) have a **stable** job

Relations between the two countries have been relatively **stable** due to the summit meeting.

### prone

- adj. inclined or likely to do something or to show a particular characteristic, especially something bad; lying face downward
- synonym: inclined, susceptible, liable
- (1) accident- **prone**, (2) **prone** to diarrhea He was **prone** to making rash decisions.

### incredible

- adj. unbelievable; enormous
- synonym: unbelievable, fantastical, inconceivable
- (1) **incredible** amount, (2) at **incredible** speed Her response revealed **incredible** idiocy.

### couch

- a piece of furniture made for sitting, usually with a back and armrests, designed to seat more than one person
- synonym: sofa, settee, divan
- (1) leather **couch**, (2) a **couch** potato

I love to relax on the **couch** and watch movies on the weekends.

# **Session 2: Spelling**

1. h k into the program

2. ge hy class

3. a tr\_\_\_y recipe to follow

4. an air-cooled en\_\_\_e

5. en\_\_\_e value

6. R M sleep cycle

7. a fl h of lightning

8. test my hyp\_\_\_\_is

9. am\_\_\_g advances

v. to hit and cut somebody or something roughly and violently; to find a bug in a computer program and break into their systems or networks

 a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena of the Earth

adj. requiring care and skill because challenging to do or deal with

 a machine that converts thermal energy to mechanical work; something that has an important role used to achieve a purpose

 to increase or improve the quality, amount, or strength of someone or something

 n. (abbreviation for rapid eye movement) a stage of sleep characterized by rapid eye movements, increased brain activity, and dreaming

*n.* a sudden intense burst of radiant energy; a momentary brightness

 a proposed idea or explanation that is based on a few known facts but has not yet been proven to be true or accurate

adj. extremely surprising, especially in a way that you like or admire

ANSWERS: 1. hack, 2. geography, 3. tricky, 4. engine, 5. enhance, 6. REM, 7. flash, 8. hypothesis, 9. amazing

10. re t at a high temperature to take action in response to something ν. 11. de\_\_a cone a triangular area of low and flat land n. that is formed when a river flows into a larger body of water and deposits sediment; an object shaped like an equilateral triangle 12. collaborate with co\_\_\_\_ues one of a group of a coworker, especially n. in a profession or a business 13. decision-making pr\_\_\_s a series of actions or operations n. performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products a signal, gesture, or action that provides 14. c e card n. information or direction for someone else to act or respond; a reminder or prompt for someone to do something 15. tr er a file to move, pass, or change from one ν. person, place, or situation to another 16. satisfy my intellectual cu\_\_\_\_ty a strong desire to know or learn about n. something a playing card with a single symbol or 17. a e in the hole mark that is typically the highest in value or rank in a particular card game; a person who is very skilled or successful in a specific activity or field

ANSWERS: 10. react, 11. delta, 12. colleague, 13. process, 14. cue, 15. transfer, 16. curiosity, 17. ace

18. tr\_\_\_y problem adj. requiring care and skill because challenging to do or deal with a short sleep, especially during the day 19. daytime n p n. 20. pa e for a reaction to take a short break from talking or ν. doing something before continuing 21. leather co\_h a piece of furniture made for sitting, n. usually with a back and armrests, designed to seat more than one person 22. su ly attacked by an enemy adv. quickly and unexpectedly 23. pi\_\_e the curiosity a feeling of irritation or resentment, often caused by a perceived slight or insult; (verb) to cause to feel resentment or indignation knowledge, perception, understanding, 24. k n of the person n. or range of sight; (verb) to be aware of or know 25. pr\_\_\_s improvement a series of actions or operations n. performed to achieve a particular outcome or goal; a systematic procedure or approach used to accomplish a specific task or objective; a method of treating milk to make it suitable for consumption or use in other dairy products adj. inclined or likely to do something or to 26. pr\_\_e to diarrhea show a particular characteristic, especially something bad; lying face downward 27. former co\_\_\_\_ue one of a group of a coworker, especially n. in a profession or a business

ANSWERS: 18. tricky, 19. nap, 20. pause, 21. couch, 22. suddenly, 23. pique, 24. ken, 25. process, 26. prone, 27. colleague

28. two-ph e structure any stage in a series of events, change, n. or development 29. series of exp nts the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge 30. fr\_\_\_e ecosystem adj. delicate or easily broken or damaged 31. exp\_\_\_\_nt design the scientific test conducted to observe what happens and gain new knowledge 32. an ele\_\_\_\_al storm adj. relating to electricity 33. lo e a missing pet to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something 34. climate sk c a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural beliefs and actions employed to 35. a ma c spell n. influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers 36. sl\_\_\_\_ve sleep a type of brain wave that occurs during n. deep sleep, characterized by low frequency and high amplitude a feeling of irritation or resentment, 37. out of pi e often caused by a perceived slight or insult; (verb) to cause to feel resentment or indignation 38. con\_\_\_\_te a leadership to make something more vital, more  $\nu$ . solid, or more certain 39. pa\_\_e a moment to take a short break from talking or ν. doing something before continuing

ANSWERS: 28. phase, 29. experiment, 30. fragile, 31. experiment, 32. electrical, 33. locate, 34. skeptic, 35. magic, 36. slow-wave, 37. pique, 38. consolidate, 39. pause

ANSWERS: 40. improve, 41. curiosity, 42. strengthen, 43. ken, 44. gag, 45. nap, 46. phase, 47. delta, 48. embarrass

n.

ν.

47. river de\_\_as

48. em\_\_\_\_ss political enemy

a triangular area of low and flat land

larger body of water and deposits sediment; an object shaped like an

to cause someone to feel awkward,

equilateral triangle

worried, or ashamed

that is formed when a river flows into a

49.	a steam ene	n.	a machine that converts thermal energy to mechanical work; something that has an important role used to achieve a purpose
50.	have a ste job	adj.	firm and steady; not easily moved, disturbed, or changed
51.	rent by a diagram	ν.	to speak, act, or be present on behalf of another person or group; to form or constitute
52.	slve circuit	n.	a type of brain wave that occurs during deep sleep, characterized by low frequency and high amplitude
53.	loe a tumor	<i>v</i> .	to specify or determine the exact position of someone or something
54.	jol articles	n.	a newspaper or magazine specialized in a specific topic or profession
55.	R_M sleep behavior disorder	n.	(abbreviation for rapid eye movement) a stage of sleep characterized by rapid eye movements, increased brain activity, and dreaming
56.	brilliant flh	n.	a sudden intense burst of radiant energy; a momentary brightness
57.	ret against his way of thinking	<i>v</i> .	to take action in response to something
58.	visual c_e	n.	a signal, gesture, or action that provides information or direction for someone else to act or respond; a reminder or prompt for someone to do something
59.	die suly	adv.	quickly and unexpectedly

ANSWERS: 49. engine, 50. stable, 51. represent, 52. slow-wave, 53. locate, 54. journal, 55. REM, 56. flash, 57. react, 58. cue, 59. suddenly

60. tennis a_e	
61. at incle speed	
62. basic brn function	
63. accident-pre	
64. in ste condition	
65. emss my project	
66. conte his debt	
67. a bold hypis	
68. an ingrained skc	
69. g_g a newspaper	

- a playing card with a single symbol or mark that is typically the highest in value or rank in a particular card game; a person who is very skilled or successful in a specific activity or field
- adj. unbelievable; enormous
- the organ inside the head that is responsible for one's movement, thought, memory, and feeling
- adj. inclined or likely to do something or to show a particular characteristic, especially something bad; lying face downward
- adj. firm and steady; not easily moved, disturbed, or changed
- v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
- v. to make something more vital, more solid, or more certain
- a proposed idea or explanation that is based on a few known facts but has not yet been proven to be true or accurate
- a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural
- expression, often through force or intimidation; to bind or cover the mouth to prevent speech; to cause someone to retch or choke; (noun) a device that is placed over someone's mouth to prevent them from speaking or making noise; an order that prohibits a person or group from discussing a particular topic or sharing certain information with others

ANSWERS: 60. ace, 61. incredible, 62. brain, 63. prone, 64. stable, 65. embarrass, 66. consolidate, 67. hypothesis, 68. skeptic, 69. gag

70.	trer power	ν.	to move, pass, or change from one person, place, or situation to another
71.	h_k through the jungle	<i>v</i> .	to hit and cut somebody or something roughly and violently; to find a bug in a computer program and break into their systems or networks
72.	permanent brn damage	n.	the organ inside the head that is responsible for one's movement, thought, memory, and feeling
73.	the characters that rent numbers	ν.	to speak, act, or be present on behalf of another person or group; to form or constitute
74.	economic gehy	n.	a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants, and phenomena of the Earth
75.	incle amount	adj.	unbelievable; enormous
76.	scientific joI	n.	a newspaper or magazine specialized in a specific topic or profession
77.	she is mac	n.	beliefs and actions employed to influence supernatural beings and forces; any art or performance that invokes supernatural powers
78.	stren a border patrol	ν.	to become stronger or more effective; to make someone or something stronger or more effective
79.	ime the test score	v.	to make or become better
80.	a coh potato	n.	a piece of furniture made for sitting, usually with a back and armrests, designed to seat more than one person

ANSWERS: 70. transfer, 71. hack, 72. brain, 73. represent, 74. geography, 75. incredible, 76. journal, 77. magic, 78. strengthen, 79. improve, 80. couch

81.	the most amg feeling	adj.	extremely surprising, especially in a way that you like or admire
82.	ene the flavor of the vanilla	<i>v</i> .	to increase or improve the quality, amount, or strength of someone or something
83.	degree in eleal engineering	adj.	relating to electricity
84.	politically fr e nation	adi.	delicate or easily broken or damaged

ANSWERS: 81. amazing, 82. enhance, 83. electrical, 84. fragile

# **Session 3: Fill in the Blanks**

1.	The two universities will in July next year.		
v.	to make something more vital, more solid, or more certain		
2.	He was a who doubted the existence of supernatural phenomena.		
n.	a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural		
3.	We elected him to us at the international conference.		
<i>v</i> .	to speak, act, or be present on behalf of another person or group; to form or constitute		
4.	The policies he announces can be the of economic growth in the country.		
n.	a machine that converts thermal energy to mechanical work; something that has an important role used to achieve a purpose		
5.	The activity in his brain indicated that he was in a deep sleep phase.		
n.	a type of brain wave that occurs during deep sleep, characterized by low frequency and high amplitude		
6.	This evidence supports the big-bang		
n.	a proposed idea or explanation that is based on a few known facts but has not yet been proven to be true or accurate		
7.	He looked for an opportunity to that actor in public.		
<i>v</i> .	to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed		
ANSWERS: 1. consolidate, 2. skeptic, 3. represent, 4. engine, 5. slow-wave, 6. hypothesis, 7. embarrass			

ANSWERS: 25. electrical, 26. colleague, 27. locate, 28. paused, 29. nap, 30. REM, 31. ken, 32. brain, 33. incredible

Vocab-Builder Ref from "Greg Gage: How sound can hack your memory while you sleep | TED Talk" (42 words)

42. He was \_\_\_\_\_ to making rash decisions.

adj. inclined or likely to do something or to show a particular characteristic, especially something bad; lying face downward

ANSWERS: 42. prone