

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Stephanie Sardelis: Why do whales sing? | TED Talk*  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/stephanie\\_sardelis\\_why\\_d\\_o\\_whales\\_sing](https://www.ted.com/talks/stephanie_sardelis_why_d_o_whales_sing)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### whistle

- v. to make a high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small opening, usually with the lips or fingers; (noun) a piece of equipment that forces air or steam against an edge or into a cavity and so produces a loud shrill sound

*synonym*: sound, honk, tweet

(1) **whistle** a tune, (2) **whistle** for help

The employee decided to **whistle-blow** on the company's illegal activities.

### groan

- v. to make a low, moaning sound, often indicating pain, discomfort, or dissatisfaction

*synonym*: moan, grunt, sigh

(1) **groan** in pain, (2) **groan** for water

The sight of the huge pile of laundry made me **groan** with dread.

### trill

- v. to make a vibratory, quavering sound, often in singing or speech, by rapidly alternating between two different notes; (noun) a musical sound or vocalization produced by a rapid alternation between two adjacent pitches

*synonym*: warble, quaver, chirp

(1) **trill** melodious song, (2) the **trill** of a bird

The soprano singer's voice **trilled** with pure clarity, captivating the audience.

## symphony

*n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements

*synonym* : orchestra, harmony, concert

(1) a **symphony** orchestra, (2) a beautiful **symphony**

The frequent performances of the **symphony** prove its popularity.

## evocative

*adj.* tending to evoke or bring something to mind

*synonym* : suggestive, stimulating, provocative

(1) **evocative** memories, (2) **evocative** language

The music was **evocative** of a bygone era.

## bowhead

*n.* a large, baleen whale species typically found in Arctic and subarctic regions, known for its distinctive, arched upper jaw

*synonym* : whale, marine mammal

(1) Arctic **bowhead**, (2) **bowhead** hunt

The **bowhead** whale is known for its massive size and long lifespan.

## mink

*n.* a small carnivorous mammal with dark brown fur, native to North America and Europe

*synonym* : fur, pelt

(1) the texture of **mink**, (2) **mink** fur

She wrapped herself in the luxurious **mink** coat on the cold winter day.

## humpback

*n.* a large whale that has a hump on its back and long flippers, found in both the northern and southern hemispheres

*synonym* : whale, cetacean, mammal

(1) **humpback** mountain, (2) **humpback** bridge

The **humpback** whale is known for its distinctive songs that can travel great distances.

## baleen

*n.* whalebone, or a flexible material made from keratin that is used by whales (and some other animals) to filter krill and other small organisms from seawater

*synonym* : whisker, bristle, sieve

(1) **baleen** bristles, (2) **baleen** plates

The whale's **baleen** filters out small organisms for the animal to eat.

## echolocation

*n.* the use of reflected sound waves to locate objects, particularly by dolphins and bats.

*synonym* : echo sounding

(1) bat **echolocation**, (2) ultrasound for **echolocation**

Dolphins use **echolocation** for hunting fish.

## exhale

*v.* to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently

*synonym* : breathe out, expel, emit

(1) **exhale** a big sigh, (2) **exhale** cigarette smoke

He took a deep breath and slowly began to **exhale**.

## vibrate

*v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side

*synonym* : oscillate, convulse, jerk

(1) **vibrate** at a regular frequency, (2) **vibrate** with anger

During the flight, the wings of the plane **vibrate**.

## inflate

*v.* to fill something with air or gas so that it becomes bigger and rounder

*synonym* : blow up, expand, puff up

(1) **inflate** a tire, (2) **inflate** expense reports

She **inflated** the balloons for the party.

## larynx

*n.* an organ in the top of the throat involved in breathing, producing sound

(1) irritate the **larynx**, (2) narrowing of the **larynx**

Smoking significantly increases the risk of **larynx** cancer.

- sac** *n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant  
*synonym* : bag, pouch, knapsack  
(1) **sac** contents, (2) abdominal **sac**  
I placed my valuables in the **sac** before heading out on my hike.
- contraction** *n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount  
*synonym* : shrinking, compression, reduction  
(1) **contraction** of a disease, (2) **contraction** in the industry  
The **contraction** of the economy has led to job losses.
- resonate** *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound  
*synonym* : echo, reverberate, resound  
(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency  
The sound **resonates** well in this theater.
- cathedral** *n.* the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area  
*synonym* : church, basilica, temple  
(1) **cathedral** school, (2) **cathedral** choir  
The **cathedral's** stained glass windows depicted scenes from the Bible.
- propagate** *v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction  
*synonym* : propagate, multiply, reproduce  
(1) **propagate** a rumor, (2) **propagate** plants  
The company is working hard to **propagate** their brand message to as many people as possible
- recycle** *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

*synonym* : reclaim, reuse, reprocess

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

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

## moan

*v.* to make a low, prolonged sound of pain, grief, or sexual pleasure; to complain about something

*synonym* : groan, sigh, lament

(1) **moan** the current situation, (2) **moan** with pleasure

She **moaned** in pain as the doctor examined her injury.

## chirp

*n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

*synonym* : tweet, chirrup, peep

(1) the **chirp** of a bird, (2) the **chirp** of a cricket

The sound of the **chirp** woke me up early in the morning.

## speculate

*v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

*synonym* : assume, conjecture, infer

(1) **speculate** about the reason, (2) **speculate** on the outcome

He **speculated** that this investment would lead to success.

## earshot

*n.* the distance within which a sound can be heard; the range or distance over which one can hear a sound

*synonym* : hearing range, audible distance, earreach

(1) beyond **earshot**, (2) out of **earshot**

I could hear the music from the concert within **earshot** of my home.

## eavesdrop

*v.* to listen to someone else's conversation without their knowledge or permission

*synonym* : listen in, spy, overhear

(1) **eavesdrop** conversation, (2) **eavesdrop** on a secret plot

I accidentally **eavesdropped** on a confidential meeting last week.

## hydrophone

*n.* a device used to detect and analyze sound waves in water, typically used for underwater acoustics research, sonar systems, or underwater surveillance

*synonym*: underwater microphone, acoustic sensor, sonar receiver

(1) deep-sea **hydrophone**, (2) **hydrophone** sensor

The military uses **hydrophones** for underwater surveillance and communication.

## elusive

*adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember

*synonym*: mysterious, ambiguous, inapproachable

(1) an **elusive** criminal, (2) track down an **elusive** fact

The physicist who found the **elusive** particle won the Nobel Prize.

## migratory

*adj.* relating to or characterized by the movement of individuals or groups from one place to another, often for regular seasonal or environmental reasons

*synonym*: nomadic, wandering, roving

(1) **migratory** species, (2) **migratory** route

The **migratory** birds flew thousands of miles to reach their wintering grounds.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. ca\_\_\_\_\_al choir *n.* the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
2. wh\_\_\_\_\_e for help *v.* to make a high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small opening, usually with the lips or fingers; (noun) a piece of equipment that forces air or steam against an edge or into a cavity and so produces a loud shrill sound
3. track down an el\_\_\_\_\_e fact *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
4. m\_\_n the current situation *v.* to make a low, prolonged sound of pain, grief, or sexual pleasure; to complain about something
5. irritate the la\_\_\_\_x *n.* an organ in the top of the throat involved in breathing, producing sound
6. tr\_\_l melodious song *v.* to make a vibratory, quavering sound, often in singing or speech, by rapidly alternating between two different notes; (noun) a musical sound or vocalization produced by a rapid alternation between two adjacent pitches
7. Arctic bo\_\_\_\_\_d *n.* a large, baleen whale species typically found in Arctic and subarctic regions, known for its distinctive, arched upper jaw
8. con\_\_\_\_\_on of a disease *n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount

ANSWERS: 1. cathedral, 2. whistle, 3. elusive, 4. moan, 5. larynx, 6. trill, 7. bowhead, 8. contraction

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|--------------------------------|---|
| 9. ba___n bristles             | <i>n.</i> whalebone, or a flexible material made from keratin that is used by whales (and some other animals) to filter krill and other small organisms from seawater |
| 10. ultrasound for ech_____ion | <i>n.</i> the use of reflected sound waves to locate objects, particularly by dolphins and bats.  |
| 11. m__k fur                   | <i>n.</i> a small carnivorous mammal with dark brown fur, native to North America and Europe  |
| 12. sp_____te about the reason | <i>v.</i> to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence  |
| 13. the ch__p of a cricket     | <i>n.</i> a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers  |
| 14. the texture of m__k        | <i>n.</i> a small carnivorous mammal with dark brown fur, native to North America and Europe  |
| 15. sp_____te on the outcome   | <i>v.</i> to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence  |
| 16. ev_____ve memories         | <i>adj.</i> tending to evoke or bring something to mind   |
| 17. vi_____e with anger        | <i>v.</i> to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side  |
| 18. in_____e a tire            | <i>v.</i> to fill something with air or gas so that it becomes bigger and rounder   |
| 19. ev_____ve language         | <i>adj.</i> tending to evoke or bring something to mind   |

ANSWERS: 9. baleen, 10. echolocation, 11. mink, 12. speculate, 13. chirp, 14. mink, 15. speculate, 16. evocative, 17. vibrate, 18. inflate, 19. evocative



20. mi\_\_\_\_\_ry route *adj.* relating to or characterized by the movement of individuals or groups from one place to another, often for regular seasonal or environmental reasons
21. m\_\_n with pleasure *v.* to make a low, prolonged sound of pain, grief, or sexual pleasure; to complain about something
22. the tr\_\_l of a bird *v.* to make a vibratory, quavering sound, often in singing or speech, by rapidly alternating between two different notes; (noun) a musical sound or vocalization produced by a rapid alternation between two adjacent pitches
23. ex\_\_\_e a big sigh *v.* to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently
24. hyd\_\_\_\_\_ne sensor *n.* a device used to detect and analyze sound waves in water, typically used for underwater acoustics research, sonar systems, or underwater surveillance
25. re\_\_\_\_\_e milk packaging into new paper *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
26. pr\_\_\_\_\_te a rumor *v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction
27. ba\_\_\_n plates *n.* whalebone, or a flexible material made from keratin that is used by whales (and some other animals) to filter krill and other small organisms from seawater

ANSWERS: 20. migratory, 21. moan, 22. trill, 23. exhale, 24. hydrophone, 25. recycle, 26. propagate, 27. baleen

28. a beautiful sy\_\_\_\_ny *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
29. re\_\_\_\_te in the same frequency *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
30. con\_\_\_\_on in the industry *n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount
31. narrowing of the la\_\_\_\_x *n.* an organ in the top of the throat involved in breathing, producing sound
32. beyond ea\_\_\_\_t *n.* the distance within which a sound can be heard; the range or distance over which one can hear a sound
33. deeply re\_\_\_\_te with the consumers *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
34. an el\_\_\_\_e criminal *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
35. hu\_\_\_\_ck bridge *n.* a large whale that has a hump on its back and long flippers, found in both the northern and southern hemispheres
36. s\_c contents *n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant
37. mi\_\_\_\_ry species *adj.* relating to or characterized by the movement of individuals or groups from one place to another, often for regular seasonal or environmental reasons
38. wh\_\_\_\_e a tune *v.* to make a high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small opening, usually with the lips or fingers; (noun) a piece of equipment that forces air or steam against an edge or into a cavity and so produces a loud shrill sound

ANSWERS: 28. symphony, 29. resonate, 30. contraction, 31. larynx, 32. earshot, 33. resonate, 34. elusive, 35. humpback, 36. sac, 37. migratory, 38. whistle

39. vi\_\_\_\_\_e at a regular frequency      *v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
40. deep-sea hyd\_\_\_\_\_ne      *n.* a device used to detect and analyze sound waves in water, typically used for underwater acoustics research, sonar systems, or underwater surveillance
41. ea\_\_\_\_\_op conversation      *v.* to listen to someone else's conversation without their knowledge or permission
42. bo\_\_\_\_\_d hunt      *n.* a large, baleen whale species typically found in Arctic and subarctic regions, known for its distinctive, arched upper jaw
43. re\_\_\_\_\_e the cardboard boxes      *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
44. abdominal s\_c      *n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant
45. the ch\_\_p of a bird      *n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers
46. gr\_\_n for water      *v.* to make a low, moaning sound, often indicating pain, discomfort, or dissatisfaction
47. in\_\_\_\_\_e expense reports      *v.* to fill something with air or gas so that it becomes bigger and rounder
48. ea\_\_\_\_\_op on a secret plot      *v.* to listen to someone else's conversation without their knowledge or permission

ANSWERS: 39. vibrate, 40. hydrophone, 41. eavesdrop, 42. bowhead, 43. recycle, 44. sac, 45. chirp, 46. groan, 47. inflate, 48. eavesdrop

49. ca\_\_\_\_\_al school *n.* the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
50. ex\_\_\_e cigarette smoke *v.* to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently
51. pr\_\_\_\_\_te plants *v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction
52. a sy\_\_\_\_\_ny orchestra *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
53. out of ea\_\_\_\_\_t *n.* the distance within which a sound can be heard; the range or distance over which one can hear a sound
54. hu\_\_\_\_\_ck mountain *n.* a large whale that has a hump on its back and long flippers, found in both the northern and southern hemispheres
55. bat ech\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the use of reflected sound waves to locate objects, particularly by dolphins and bats.
56. gr\_\_n in pain *v.* to make a low, moaning sound, often indicating pain, discomfort, or dissatisfaction

ANSWERS: 49. cathedral, 50. exhale, 51. propagate, 52. symphony, 53. earshot, 54. humpback, 55. echolocation, 56. groan

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The physicist who found the \_\_\_\_\_ particle won the Nobel Prize.  
*adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ whale is known for its massive size and long lifespan.  
*n.* a large, baleen whale species typically found in Arctic and subarctic regions, known for its distinctive, arched upper jaw
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ whale is known for its distinctive songs that can travel great distances.  
*n.* a large whale that has a hump on its back and long flippers, found in both the northern and southern hemispheres
4. We largely \_\_\_\_\_ the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.  
*v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the economy has led to job losses.  
*n.* the act or process of becoming smaller or shorter in size, volume, or amount
6. The company is working hard to \_\_\_\_\_ their brand message to as many people as possible  
*v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction
7. The music was \_\_\_\_\_ of a bygone era.  
*adj.* tending to evoke or bring something to mind

ANSWERS: 1. elusive, 2. bowhead, 3. humpback, 4. recycle, 5. contraction, 6. propagate, 7. evocative

8. The military uses \_\_\_\_\_ for underwater surveillance and communication.
- n.* a device used to detect and analyze sound waves in water, typically used for underwater acoustics research, sonar systems, or underwater surveillance
9. He took a deep breath and slowly began to \_\_\_\_\_.
- v.* to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently
10. She \_\_\_\_\_ the balloons for the party.
- v.* to fill something with air or gas so that it becomes bigger and rounder
11. Smoking significantly increases the risk of \_\_\_\_\_ cancer.
- n.* an organ in the top of the throat involved in breathing, producing sound
12. The frequent performances of the \_\_\_\_\_ prove its popularity.
- n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
13. I accidentally \_\_\_\_\_ on a confidential meeting last week.
- v.* to listen to someone else's conversation without their knowledge or permission
14. The soprano singer's voice \_\_\_\_\_ with pure clarity, captivating the audience.
- v.* to make a vibratory, quavering sound, often in singing or speech, by rapidly alternating between two different notes; (noun) a musical sound or vocalization produced by a rapid alternation between two adjacent pitches
15. I placed my valuables in the \_\_\_\_\_ before heading out on my hike.
- n.* a bag or pouch, typically made of fabric or leather, used to hold something valuable or important; a structure resembling a bag in an animal or plant

ANSWERS: 8. hydrophones, 9. exhale, 10. inflated, 11. larynx, 12. symphony, 13. eavesdropped, 14. trilled, 15. sac

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ stained glass windows depicted scenes from the Bible.
- n.* the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
17. Dolphins use \_\_\_\_\_ for hunting fish.
- n.* the use of reflected sound waves to locate objects, particularly by dolphins and bats.
18. The sound \_\_\_\_\_ well in this theater.
- v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
19. She \_\_\_\_\_ in pain as the doctor examined her injury.
- v.* to make a low, prolonged sound of pain, grief, or sexual pleasure; to complain about something
20. During the flight, the wings of the plane \_\_\_\_\_.
- v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
21. He \_\_\_\_\_ that this investment would lead to success.
- v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
22. The whale's \_\_\_\_\_ filters out small organisms for the animal to eat.
- n.* whalebone, or a flexible material made from keratin that is used by whales (and some other animals) to filter krill and other small organisms from seawater
23. The sound of the \_\_\_\_\_ woke me up early in the morning.
- n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

ANSWERS: 16. cathedral's, 17. echolocation, 18. resonates, 19. moaned, 20. vibrate, 21. speculated, 22. baleen, 23. chirp

24. I could hear the music from the concert within \_\_\_\_\_ of my home.
- n.* the distance within which a sound can be heard; the range or distance over which one can hear a sound
25. She wrapped herself in the luxurious \_\_\_\_\_ coat on the cold winter day.
- n.* a small carnivorous mammal with dark brown fur, native to North America and Europe
26. The employee decided to \_\_\_\_\_ on the company's illegal activities.
- v.* to make a high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small opening, usually with the lips or fingers; (noun) a piece of equipment that forces air or steam against an edge or into a cavity and so produces a loud shrill sound
27. The \_\_\_\_\_ birds flew thousands of miles to reach their wintering grounds.
- adj.* relating to or characterized by the movement of individuals or groups from one place to another, often for regular seasonal or environmental reasons
28. The sight of the huge pile of laundry made me \_\_\_\_\_ with dread.
- v.* to make a low, moaning sound, often indicating pain, discomfort, or dissatisfaction

ANSWERS: 24. earshot, 25. mink, 26. whistle-blow, 27. migratory, 28. groan