

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kenny Coogan: Why are sloths so slow? | TED Talk  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/kenny\\_coogan\\_why\\_are\\_sloths\\_so\\_slow](https://www.ted.com/talks/kenny_coogan_why_are_sloths_so_slow)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### claw

*n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects

*synonym*: paw, talon, nail

(1) **claw** marks, (2) **claw** hammer

The bear used its **claw** to catch a fish in the river.

### predator

*n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

*synonym*: vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

### extinct

*adj.* no longer in existence

*synonym*: dead, obsolete, abolished

(1) **extinct** by human activity, (2) long- **extinct** volcano

Many species have become **extinct** due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

### sloth

*n.* laziness or lack of energy or motivation to do something; a slow-moving, arboreal mammal found in Central and South America

*synonym* : laziness, indolence, idleness

(1) lazy **sloth**, (2) overcome **sloth**

The **sloth's** slow movements are a product of their physiology.

## prehistoric

*adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable

*synonym* : ancient, primitive, archaic

(1) **prehistoric** settlements, (2) **prehistoric** times

Scientists often fail to date archeological or **prehistorical** findings.

## mastodon

*n.* a large, extinct elephant-like mammal that lived during the Pleistocene epoch, characterized by its long curved tusks and massive size

(1) **mastodon** fossils, (2) prehistoric **mastodon**

Archaeologists recently discovered **mastodon** bones in North America, proving that these animals once inhabited this region.

## armadillo

*n.* a mammal with a protective bony armor covering its body, native to the Americas and known for its ability to roll into a ball for defense

*synonym* : armored mammal, pangolin

(1) **armadillo** shell, (2) **armadillo** burrow

The biologist is conducting a study on the dietary habits of the **armadillo**.

## amble

*v.* to walk at a slow, leisurely pace; to stroll or saunter;  
(noun) a leisurely or relaxed walk, often taken for pleasure or exercise

*synonym* : saunter, stroll, wander

(1) **amble** along the beach, (2) morning **amble**

We decided to **amble** through the park, enjoying the warm weather and beautiful scenery.

## savannah

*n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close

*synonym* : grassland, plain

(1) **savannah** region, (2) tropical **savannah**

The birds live in tropical forests, **savannahs**, and arid semi-desert environments.

## uproot

*v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position

*synonym* : remove, eradicate

(1) **uproot** the tree, (2) **uproot** tradition

We decided to **uproot** our lives and move to a new city.

## graze

*v.* to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping

*synonym* : nibble, feed, scrape

(1) turn cattle out to **graze**, (2) **graze** the left shoulder

The sheep **graze** on the green grass in the meadow.

## avocado

*n.* a pear-shaped fruit with a hard skin and buttery flesh, commonly eaten raw in salads, sandwiches, or as guacamole

*synonym* : alligator pear, butter pear, midshipman's butter

(1) **avocado** toast, (2) **avocado** smoothie

I love adding **avocado** to my salads for that extra creaminess.

## 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.

## hemisphere

*n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

(1) northern **hemisphere**, (2) cerebral **hemisphere**

This weather pattern is unique to the southern **hemisphere**.

## oncoming

*adj.* approaching or moving toward a particular person or place; relating to something that is coming toward the observer

*synonym* : approaching, incoming, imminent

(1) **oncoming** traffic, (2) **oncoming** disaster

The driver had to swerve to avoid an **oncoming** car that veered into his lane.

## treetop

*n.* the uppermost part of a tree, where the leaves or branches grow out from the trunk; the highest point of elevation within a forested area

*synonym* : canopy, crown

(1) **treetop** view, (2) climb **treetop**

The drone captured breathtaking footage of the forest **treetops** from above.

## rainforest

*n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

(1) **rainforest** destruction, (2) tropical **rainforest**

The destruction of the **rainforest** is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.

## drawback

*n.* a disadvantage or inconvenience that makes something less attractive

*synonym* : disadvantage, defect, weakness

(1) the **drawback** of his method, (2) one of the main **drawbacks**

He pointed out all the **drawbacks** to our plan.

## herbivore

*n.* an animal that eats only plants, such as a cow or a deer

*synonym* : plant-eater, browser, graminivore

(1) **herbivore** diet, (2) **herbivore** animals

A giraffe is an **herbivore** that primarily eats leaves and twigs.

## leafy

*adj.* covered with or having many leaves; of or relating to plants that produce many leaves, especially those that are broad and flat

*synonym*: verdant, leaf-covered, foliated

(1) **leafy** canopy, (2) **leafy** suburbs

The neighborhood is known for its **leafy** trees and verdant gardens.

## descend

v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

*synonym*: dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator

She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

## unhurried

*adj.* not feeling rushed

*synonym*: leisurely, easygoing, laid-back

(1) **unhurried** pace, (2) **unhurried** lifestyle

She took an **unhurried** walk through the park, enjoying the peaceful surroundings.

## fluctuate

v. to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

*synonym*: vary, oscillate, sway

(1) **fluctuate** prices, (2) **fluctuate** rapidly

Stock prices **fluctuate** daily based on market demand and supply.

## reptile

n. a cold-blooded animal that has dry, scaly skin and lays eggs on land, such as snakes, lizards, and turtles

*synonym*: lizard, serpent, snake

(1) **reptile** exhibition, (2) fossil **reptile**

Alligators are a type of **reptile** that live in swamps and rivers.

## algae

n. A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots

(1) **algae** biofuel, (2) blue **algae**

**Algae** has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.

## camouflage

*n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

*synonym*: guise, mask, cloak

(1) **camouflage** clothing, (2) work as **camouflage**

They utilized branches of trees as **camouflage**.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. sexual pr____ors        | <i>n.</i> an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others   |
| 2. overcome sl__h          | <i>n.</i> laziness or lack of energy or motivation to do something; a slow-moving, arboreal mammal found in Central and South America   |
| 3. tropical sa____ah       | <i>n.</i> a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close   |
| 4. c__w marks              | <i>n.</i> a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects |
| 5. he_____re diet          | <i>n.</i> an animal that eats only plants, such as a cow or a deer  |
| 6. pre_____ic times        | <i>adj.</i> belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable  |
| 7. am__e along the beach   | <i>v.</i> to walk at a slow, leisurely pace; to stroll or saunter; (noun) a leisurely or relaxed walk, often taken for pleasure or exercise   |
| 8. gr__e the left shoulder | <i>v.</i> to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping   |

ANSWERS: 1. predator, 2. sloth, 3. savannah, 4. claw, 5. herbivore, 6. prehistoric, 7. amble, 8. graze

9. rai\_\_\_\_\_st destruction *n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
10. re\_\_\_\_\_e exhibition *n.* a cold-blooded animal that has dry, scaly skin and lays eggs on land, such as snakes, lizards, and turtles
11. long-ex\_\_\_\_\_t volcano *adj.* no longer in existence
12. one of the main dr\_\_\_\_\_cks *n.* a disadvantage or inconvenience that makes something less attractive
13. northern hem\_\_\_\_\_re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
14. fl\_\_\_\_\_sh economically *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
15. up\_\_\_\_t the tree *v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position
16. fl\_\_\_\_\_te prices *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
17. ar\_\_\_\_\_lo shell *n.* a mammal with a protective bony armor covering its body, native to the Americas and known for its ability to roll into a ball for defense
18. turn cattle out to gr\_\_\_e *v.* to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping
19. ma\_\_\_\_\_on fossils *n.* a large, extinct elephant-like mammal that lived during the Pleistocene epoch, characterized by its long curved tusks and massive size

ANSWERS: 9. rainforest, 10. reptile, 11. extinct, 12. drawback, 13. hemisphere, 14. flourish, 15. uproot, 16. fluctuate, 17. armadillo, 18. graze, 19. mastodon



20. on\_\_\_\_ng traffic *adj.* approaching or moving toward a particular person or place; relating to something that is coming toward the observer
21. de\_\_\_\_d a steep hill *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
22. al\_\_e biofuel *n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
23. tr\_\_\_\_p view *n.* the uppermost part of a tree, where the leaves or branches grow out from the trunk; the highest point of elevation within a forested area
24. cam\_\_\_\_ge clothing *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
25. on\_\_\_\_ng disaster *adj.* approaching or moving toward a particular person or place; relating to something that is coming toward the observer
26. sa\_\_\_\_ah region *n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
27. fl\_\_\_\_sh worldwide *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
28. tropical rai\_\_\_\_st *n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

ANSWERS: 20. oncoming, 21. descend, 22. algae, 23. treetop, 24. camouflage, 25. oncoming, 26. savannah, 27. flourish, 28. rainforest

29. av\_\_\_\_o toast *n.* a pear-shaped fruit with a hard skin and buttery flesh, commonly eaten raw in salads, sandwiches, or as guacamole
30. c\_\_w hammer *n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects
31. ar\_\_\_\_\_lo burrow *n.* a mammal with a protective bony armor covering its body, native to the Americas and known for its ability to roll into a ball for defense
32. de\_\_\_\_d by elevator *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
33. work as cam\_\_\_\_\_ge *n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment
34. cerebral hem\_\_\_\_\_re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
35. lazy sl\_\_h *n.* laziness or lack of energy or motivation to do something; a slow-moving, arboreal mammal found in Central and South America
36. blue al\_\_e *n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots

ANSWERS: 29. avocado, 30. claw, 31. armadillo, 32. descend, 33. camouflage, 34. hemisphere, 35. sloth, 36. algae

37. ex\_\_\_\_t by human activity      *adj.* no longer in existence
38. un\_\_\_\_\_ed lifestyle      *adj.* not feeling rushed
39. climb tr\_\_\_\_\_p      *n.* the uppermost part of a tree, where the leaves or branches grow out from the trunk; the highest point of elevation within a forested area
40. av\_\_\_\_\_o smoothie      *n.* a pear-shaped fruit with a hard skin and buttery flesh, commonly eaten raw in salads, sandwiches, or as guacamole
41. the dr\_\_\_\_\_ck of his method      *n.* a disadvantage or inconvenience that makes something less attractive
42. morning am\_\_e      *v.* to walk at a slow, leisurely pace; to stroll or saunter; (noun) a leisurely or relaxed walk, often taken for pleasure or exercise
43. fossil re\_\_\_\_\_e      *n.* a cold-blooded animal that has dry, scaly skin and lays eggs on land, such as snakes, lizards, and turtles
44. le\_\_y suburbs      *adj.* covered with or having many leaves; of or relating to plants that produce many leaves, especially those that are broad and flat
45. un\_\_\_\_\_ed pace      *adj.* not feeling rushed
46. le\_\_y canopy      *adj.* covered with or having many leaves; of or relating to plants that produce many leaves, especially those that are broad and flat
47. prehistoric ma\_\_\_\_\_on      *n.* a large, extinct elephant-like mammal that lived during the Pleistocene epoch, characterized by its long curved tusks and massive size

ANSWERS: 37. extinct, 38. unhurried, 39. treetop, 40. avocado, 41. drawback, 42. amble, 43. reptile, 44. leafy, 45. unhurried, 46. leafy, 47. mastodon

48. he\_\_\_\_\_re animals *n.* an animal that eats only plants, such as a cow or a deer
49. up\_\_\_t tradition *v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position
50. pre\_\_\_\_\_ic settlements *adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable
51. apex pr\_\_\_\_\_or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
52. fl\_\_\_\_\_te rapidly *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

ANSWERS: 48. herbivore, 49. uproot, 50. prehistoric, 51. predator, 52. fluctuate

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The birds live in tropical forests, \_\_\_\_\_ and arid semi-desert environments.
  - n.* a mixed forest and grassland ecosystem where the trees are far enough apart that the canopy doesn't close
2. The biologist is conducting a study on the dietary habits of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - n.* a mammal with a protective bony armor covering its body, native to the Americas and known for its ability to roll into a ball for defense
3. The neighborhood is known for its \_\_\_\_\_ trees and verdant gardens.
  - adj.* covered with or having many leaves; of or relating to plants that produce many leaves, especially those that are broad and flat
4. Archaeologists recently discovered \_\_\_\_\_ bones in North America, proving that these animals once inhabited this region.
  - n.* a large, extinct elephant-like mammal that lived during the Pleistocene epoch, characterized by its long curved tusks and massive size
5. The driver had to swerve to avoid an \_\_\_\_\_ car that veered into his lane.
  - adj.* approaching or moving toward a particular person or place; relating to something that is coming toward the observer
6. Scientists often fail to date archeological or \_\_\_\_\_ findings.
  - adj.* belonging to or existing in times before recorded history; no longer fashionable
7. We decided to \_\_\_\_\_ through the park, enjoying the warm weather and beautiful scenery.
  - v.* to walk at a slow, leisurely pace; to stroll or saunter; (noun) a leisurely or relaxed walk, often taken for pleasure or exercise

ANSWERS: 1. savannahs, 2. armadillo, 3. leafy, 4. mastodon, 5. oncoming, 6. prehistorical, 7. amble

8. She was \_\_\_\_\_ from an old Italian noble family.
- v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
9. \_\_\_\_\_ has jammed the inlet to the water turbine.
- n.* A simple plant that grows in or near water and lacks typical leaves and roots
10. Alligators are a type of \_\_\_\_\_ that live in swamps and rivers.
- n.* a cold-blooded animal that has dry, scaly skin and lays eggs on land, such as snakes, lizards, and turtles
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ slow movements are a product of their physiology.
- n.* laziness or lack of energy or motivation to do something; a slow-moving, arboreal mammal found in Central and South America
12. I love adding \_\_\_\_\_ to my salads for that extra creaminess.
- n.* a pear-shaped fruit with a hard skin and buttery flesh, commonly eaten raw in salads, sandwiches, or as guacamole
13. Stock prices \_\_\_\_\_ daily based on market demand and supply.
- v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably
14. The drone captured breathtaking footage of the forest \_\_\_\_\_ from above.
- n.* the uppermost part of a tree, where the leaves or branches grow out from the trunk; the highest point of elevation within a forested area
15. The native South American animals were in danger because of the \_\_\_\_\_ arrival.
- n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

ANSWERS: 8. descended, 9. Algae, 10. reptile, 11. sloth's, 12. avocado, 13. fluctuate, 14. treetops, 15. predator's

16. This weather pattern is unique to the southern \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

17. She took an \_\_\_\_\_ walk through the park, enjoying the peaceful surroundings.

*adj.* not feeling rushed

18. The bear used its \_\_\_\_\_ to catch a fish in the river.

*n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects

19. A giraffe is an \_\_\_\_\_ that primarily eats leaves and twigs.

*n.* an animal that eats only plants, such as a cow or a deer

20. He pointed out all the \_\_\_\_\_ to our plan.

*n.* a disadvantage or inconvenience that makes something less attractive

21. They utilized branches of trees as \_\_\_\_\_.

*n.* an outward appearance that conceals the underlying essence of something; the way of concealing troops or military equipment so they cannot be seen against the surrounding environment

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

*v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

23. We decided to \_\_\_\_\_ our lives and move to a new city.

*v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position

ANSWERS: 16. hemisphere, 17. unhurried, 18. claw, 19. herbivore, 20. drawbacks, 21. camouflage, 22. flourished, 23. uproot

24. The sheep \_\_\_\_\_ on the green grass in the meadow.

- v.* to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping

25. The destruction of the \_\_\_\_\_ is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.

- n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

26. Many species have become \_\_\_\_\_ due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

- adj.* no longer in existence

ANSWERS: 24. graze, 25. rainforest, 26. extinct