

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Nizar Ibrahim: How we unearthed the Spinosaurus | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/nizar_ibrahim_how_we_unearthed_the_spinosaurus

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

dinosaur

n. a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin

synonym : reptile, beast, monster

(1) hulking **dinosaur**, (2) **dinosaur** fossil

The discovery of a new **dinosaur** species made headlines in the scientific community.

paleontology

n. the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth

synonym : fossilology, prehistoric biology

(1) vertebrate **paleontology**, (2) **paleontology** museum

My interest in **paleontology** research began when I visited a natural history museum and saw a display of fossils from the Jurassic period.

fling

v. to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry

synonym : throw, dump, hurl

(1) **fling** a stream of abuse, (2) **fling** a door open forcefully

He was provoked to **fling** the draft on the floor.

uncover

v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden

synonym : disclose, reveal, unveil

(1) **uncover** a potential problem, (2) **uncover** the truth
He continued his investigation and soon **uncovered** another crime.

predatory

adj. living by eating other animals, especially by catching prey that is still alive

synonym: raptorial, hunting, greedy

(1) a **predatory** bird, (2) **predatory** warfare

The domesticated cat still has its **predatory** instincts.

germ

n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

slender

adj. thin and delicate, often in an attractive way

synonym: lanky, skinny, slim

(1) **slender** body, (2) a long **slender** leaf

He has a **slender** income.

crocodile

n. a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

synonym: alligator, gator, croc

(1) **crocodile** hide, (2) saltwater **crocodile**

The **crocodile** attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear

conical

adj. having the shape or form of a cone; tapering to a point; resembling or pertaining to a cone in shape or structure

synonym: cone-shaped, tapered, pointed

(1) **conical** hat, (2) **conical** flask

The ice cream cone had a delicious **conical** shape.

slippery

adj. difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted

synonym : smooth, glistening, furtive

(1) a **slippery** customer, (2) **slippery** ice

How extraordinarily **slippery** a liar the camera is.

fieldwork

n. real-world research or study conducted outside a library or laboratory.

(1) meticulous **fieldwork**, (2) perform **fieldwork**

Numerous instances from **fieldwork** show these hypotheses in great detail.

sandstorm

n. a severe, and often violent, windstorm in which a cloud of sand and dust is blown over a wide area, reducing visibility and causing damage to structures and equipment

synonym : dust storm, haboob

(1) **sandstorm** warning, (2) **sandstorm** season

Many people experienced breathing difficulties during the severe **sandstorm**.

scorpion

n. a small creature similar to an insect with a segmented body, a pair of pincers, and a long, thin tail that ends in a venomous sting

synonym : arachnid, stinger

(1) **scorpion** fish, (2) poisonous **scorpion**

The **scorpion's** venom can be lethal to humans.

coelacanth

n. a deep-sea fish that was thought to be extinct but was discovered alive in the 20th century, which has lobed fins and a unique body structure similar to ancient fish

synonym : living fossil

(1) deep-sea **coelacanth**, (2) prehistoric **coelacanth**

The museum displayed a **coelacanth** fossil, allowing visitors to see the connection between the modern fish and its prehistoric ancestors.

pterosaur

n. an extinct flying reptile from the Mesozoic era, characterized by a wingspan of up to 40 feet and a long slender body with wings formed by a membrane of skin stretched between an elongated fourth finger and the body

synonym: flying reptile, winged lizard

(1) ancient **pterosaur**, (2) large **pterosaur** species

Pterosaur fossils provide valuable insights into the evolution of flying reptiles.

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.

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.

reconstruct

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

synonym: rebuild, revamp, reorganize

(1) **reconstruct** an image, (2) **reconstruct** the original text

They've decided to **reconstruct** a ruined castle.

paddle

n. a flat, usually wooden implement with a handle used for stirring, mixing, or beating a liquid or substance

synonym: oar, oarlock, scull

(1) **paddle** strokes, (2) canoe **paddle**

The **paddle** boarders glided across the crystal-clear waters of the cove.

buoyancy

n. the ability or tendency of an object to float in a fluid

synonym: flotation, levitation, airiness

(1) **buoyancy** principle, (2) **buoyancy** compensator

The object's **buoyancy** helped it float on the water's surface.

hind

adj. situated at the back or rear; coming after, following; of, or relating to the hindquarters or hind legs of an animal

synonym: back, rear, posterior

(1) **hind** toe, (2) **hind** paw

The farmer noticed a **hind** leg injury on one of his cows and called the vet for help.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sc_____on fish
n. a small creature similar to an insect with a segmented body, a pair of pincers, and a long, thin tail that ends in a venomous sting
2. sl_____ry ice
adj. difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted
3. a sl_____ry customer
adj. difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted
4. large pt_____ur species
n. an extinct flying reptile from the Mesozoic era, characterized by a wingspan of up to 40 feet and a long slender body with wings formed by a membrane of skin stretched between an elongated fourth finger and the body
5. rec_____ct an image
v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
6. prehistoric coe_____th
n. a deep-sea fish that was thought to be extinct but was discovered alive in the 20th century, which has lobed fins and a unique body structure similar to ancient fish
7. a long sl_____r leaf
adj. thin and delicate, often in an attractive way
8. co_____l hat
adj. having the shape or form of a cone; tapering to a point; resembling or pertaining to a cone in shape or structure

ANSWERS: 1. scorpion, 2. slippery, 3. slippery, 4. pterosaur, 5. reconstruct, 6. coelacanth, 7. slender, 8. conical

9. ancient pt_____ur *n.* an extinct flying reptile from the Mesozoic era, characterized by a wingspan of up to 40 feet and a long slender body with wings formed by a membrane of skin stretched between an elongated fourth finger and the body
10. cr_____le hide *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
11. sa_____rm season *n.* a severe, and often violent, windstorm in which a cloud of sand and dust is blown over a wide area, reducing visibility and causing damage to structures and equipment
12. co_____l flask *adj.* having the shape or form of a cone; tapering to a point; resembling or pertaining to a cone in shape or structure
13. a pr_____ry bird *adj.* living by eating other animals, especially by catching prey that is still alive
14. un_____r a potential problem *v.* to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden
15. sl_____r body *adj.* thin and delicate, often in an attractive way
16. h__d toe *adj.* situated at the back or rear; coming after, following; of, or relating to the hindquarters or hind legs of an animal

ANSWERS: 9. pterosaur, 10. crocodile, 11. sandstorm, 12. conical, 13. predatory, 14. uncover, 15. slender, 16. hind

17. sa_____rm warning *n.* a severe, and often violent, windstorm in which a cloud of sand and dust is blown over a wide area, reducing visibility and causing damage to structures and equipment
18. di_____ur fossil *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
19. pr_____ry warfare *adj.* living by eating other animals, especially by catching prey that is still alive
20. bu_____cy compensator *n.* the ability or tendency of an object to float in a fluid
21. fl__g a stream of abuse *v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
22. poisonous sc_____on *n.* a small creature similar to an insect with a segmented body, a pair of pincers, and a long, thin tail that ends in a venomous sting
23. an el_____e criminal *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
24. vertebrate pal_____ogy *n.* the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth
25. saltwater cr_____le *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
26. track down an el_____e fact *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember

ANSWERS: 17. sandstorm, 18. dinosaur, 19. predatory, 20. buoyancy, 21. fling, 22. scorpion, 23. elusive, 24. paleontology, 25. crocodile, 26. elusive

27. un____r the truth *v.* to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden
28. fl__g a door open forcefully *v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
29. rec_____ct the original text *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
30. canoe pa___e *n.* a flat, usually wooden implement with a handle used for stirring, mixing, or beating a liquid or substance
31. a g__m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
32. pa___e strokes *n.* a flat, usually wooden implement with a handle used for stirring, mixing, or beating a liquid or substance
33. re_____e exhibition *n.* a cold-blooded animal that has dry, scaly skin and lays eggs on land, such as snakes, lizards, and turtles
34. hulking di_____ur *n.* a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
35. perform fi_____rk *n.* real-world research or study conducted outside a library or laboratory.
36. h__d paw *adj.* situated at the back or rear; coming after, following; of, or relating to the hindquarters or hind legs of an animal

ANSWERS: 27. uncover, 28. fling, 29. reconstruct, 30. paddle, 31. germ, 32. paddle, 33. reptile, 34. dinosaur, 35. fieldwork, 36. hind

37. deep-sea coe_____th *n.* a deep-sea fish that was thought to be extinct but was discovered alive in the 20th century, which has lobed fins and a unique body structure similar to ancient fish
38. fossil re_____e *n.* a cold-blooded animal that has dry, scaly skin and lays eggs on land, such as snakes, lizards, and turtles
39. bu_____cy principle *n.* the ability or tendency of an object to float in a fluid
40. pal_____ogy museum *n.* the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth
41. meticulous fi_____rk *n.* real-world research or study conducted outside a library or laboratory.
42. antibiotic-resistant g__m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

ANSWERS: 37. coelacanth, 38. reptile, 39. buoyancy, 40. paleontology, 41. fieldwork, 42. germ

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He was provoked to _____ the draft on the floor.
 - v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry

2. The farmer noticed a _____ leg injury on one of his cows and called the vet for help.
 - adj.* situated at the back or rear; coming after, following; of, or relating to the hindquarters or hind legs of an animal

3. The _____ venom can be lethal to humans.
 - n.* a small creature similar to an insect with a segmented body, a pair of pincers, and a long, thin tail that ends in a venomous sting

4. The _____ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
 - n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

5. Numerous instances from _____ show these hypotheses in great detail.
 - n.* real-world research or study conducted outside a library or laboratory.

6. Many people experienced breathing difficulties during the severe _____.
 - n.* a severe, and often violent, windstorm in which a cloud of sand and dust is blown over a wide area, reducing visibility and causing damage to structures and equipment

7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. fling, 2. hind, 3. scorpion's, 4. germ, 5. fieldwork, 6. sandstorm, 7. reptile

8. My interest in _____ research began when I visited a natural history museum and saw a display of fossils from the Jurassic period.
n. the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth
9. The ice cream cone had a delicious _____ shape.
adj. having the shape or form of a cone; tapering to a point; resembling or pertaining to a cone in shape or structure
10. How extraordinarily _____ a liar the camera is.
adj. difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted
11. The discovery of a new _____ species made headlines in the scientific community.
n. a large extinct reptile, often with an armored back, long neck, tail, and bony plates on the skin
12. The _____ attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear
n. a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
13. The physicist who found the _____ particle won the Nobel Prize.
adj. difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
14. _____ fossils provide valuable insights into the evolution of flying reptiles.
n. an extinct flying reptile from the Mesozoic era, characterized by a wingspan of up to 40 feet and a long slender body with wings formed by a membrane of skin stretched between an elongated fourth finger and the body
15. The object's _____ helped it float on the water's surface.
n. the ability or tendency of an object to float in a fluid

ANSWERS: 8. paleontology, 9. conical, 10. slippery, 11. dinosaur, 12. crocodile, 13. elusive, 14. Pterosaur, 15. buoyancy

16. The domesticated cat still has its _____ instincts.

adj. living by eating other animals, especially by catching prey that is still alive

17. He continued his investigation and soon _____ another crime.

v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden

18. The museum displayed a _____ fossil, allowing visitors to see the connection between the modern fish and its prehistoric ancestors.

n. a deep-sea fish that was thought to be extinct but was discovered alive in the 20th century, which has lobed fins and a unique body structure similar to ancient fish

19. He has a _____ income.

adj. thin and delicate, often in an attractive way

20. They've decided to _____ a ruined castle.

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

21. The _____ boarders glided across the crystal-clear waters of the cove.

n. a flat, usually wooden implement with a handle used for stirring, mixing, or beating a liquid or substance

ANSWERS: 16. predatory, 17. uncovered, 18. coelacanth, 19. slender, 20. reconstruct, 21. paddle