

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ziyah Gafic: Everyday objects, tragic histories | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/ziyah\\_gafic\\_everyday\\_objects\\_tragic\\_histories](https://www.ted.com/talks/ziyah_gafic_everyday_objects_tragic_histories)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### mundane

*adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

*synonym* : ordinary, everyday, prosaic

(1) **mundane** affairs, (2) **mundane** objects

After returning from the war, he had a pretty **mundane** life.

### toothpaste

*n.* a paste or gel used for cleaning the teeth and freshening the breath

*synonym* : paste, gel, dentifrice

(1) **toothpaste** hygiene product, (2) **toothpaste** tube

I always use mint-flavored **toothpaste** to refresh my mouth in the morning and at night.

### toothbrush

*n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth

*synonym* : brush, scrubber, cleaner

(1) **toothbrush** stand, (2) power **toothbrush**

My **toothbrush** with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.

### exhume

*v.* to dig up or remove something, especially a corpse, from a grave or other burial place; to uncover or bring something hidden or forgotten to light

*synonym* : unearth, disinter

(1) **exhume** remains, (2) **exhume** the past  
The authorities had to **exhume** the body for further investigation into the cause of death.

## devastate

*v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage  
*synonym*: demolish, destroy, crush

(1) **devastate** an area, (2) **devastate** the economy  
Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which **devastate** coastal areas.

## presume

*v.* to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance

*synonym*: assume, suppose, guess

(1) **presume** innocence, (2) **presume** on his tolerance  
I **presume** you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.

## remnant

*n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something

*synonym*: remainder, leftover, residue

(1) **remnant** of the past, (2) **remnants** of fabric  
The only **remnant** left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.

## undiscovered

*adj.* not yet found or known

*synonym*: unknown, hidden, unexplored

(1) **undiscovered** territory, (2) **undiscovered** potential  
The jungle is full of **undiscovered** species waiting to be found.

## artifact

*n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

*synonym*: antique, relic, heirloom

(1) paleolithic **artifacts**, (2) Peruvian **artifacts**  
The museum has a vast collection of Greek **artifacts**.

## orphan

*n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them

*synonym*: waif, stray, fatherless child

(1) **orphan** care, (2) asylum for **orphan** children

The little girl was a war **orphan** and lived in a group home.

## shelve

*v.* to put or arrange something, especially books, on a shelf; to decide not to take action on something either for a short time or permanently

*synonym*: defer, postpone, freeze

(1) **shelve** a book, (2) **shelve** a bill

Considering the recent increase in interest rates, we must **shelve** our plans to buy a new house.

## storytelling

*n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories

*synonym*: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

## empathy

*n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

*synonym*: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

**Empathy** is also necessary to understand history.

## testament

*n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else

*synonym*: proof, testimony, testimonial

(1) give properties by **testament**, (2) **testament** to the superior quality

His wealth is a **testament** to his success.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. too _____sh stand             | <i>n.</i> a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth  |
| 2. de _____te an area            | <i>v.</i> to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage  |
| 3. pr _____e on his tolerance    | <i>v.</i> to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance |
| 4. full of em _____y             | <i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation   |
| 5. asylum for or _____n children | <i>n.</i> a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them  |
| 6. de _____te the economy        | <i>v.</i> to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage  |
| 7. too _____te hygiene product   | <i>n.</i> a paste or gel used for cleaning the teeth and freshening the breath   |
| 8. sh _____e a bill              | <i>v.</i> to put or arrange something, especially books, on a shelf; to decide not to take action on something either for a short time or permanently  |
| 9. courtroom sto _____ing        | <i>n.</i> the act or art of narrating or writing stories   |
| 10. em _____y for patients       | <i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation   |

ANSWERS: 1. toothbrush, 2. devastate, 3. presume, 4. empathy, 5. orphan, 6. devastate, 7. toothpaste, 8. shelve, 9. storytelling, 10. empathy

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 11. mu_____e objects                  | <i>adj.</i> very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement   |
| 12. too_____te tube                   | <i>n.</i> a paste or gel used for cleaning the teeth and freshening the breath   |
| 13. ex_____e the past                 | <i>v.</i> to dig up or remove something, especially a corpse, from a grave or other burial place; to uncover or bring something hidden or forgotten to light   |
| 14. give properties by te_____nt      | <i>n.</i> a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else   |
| 15. sh_____e a book                   | <i>v.</i> to put or arrange something, especially books, on a shelf; to decide not to take action on something either for a short time or permanently  |
| 16. paleolithic ar_____cts            | <i>n.</i> a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest  |
| 17. te_____nt to the superior quality | <i>n.</i> a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else   |
| 18. re_____t of the past              | <i>n.</i> a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something  |
| 19. pr_____e innocence                | <i>v.</i> to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance |
| 20. und_____red territory             | <i>adj.</i> not yet found or known   |

ANSWERS: 11. mundane, 12. toothpaste, 13. exhume, 14. testament, 15. shelve, 16. artifact, 17. testament, 18. remnant, 19. presume, 20. undiscovered

21. sto\_\_\_\_\_ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
22. or\_\_\_n care *n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them
23. re\_\_\_\_\_ts of fabric *n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
24. power too\_\_\_\_\_sh *n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
25. mu\_\_\_\_\_e affairs *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
26. Peruvian ar\_\_\_\_\_cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
27. und\_\_\_\_\_red potential *adj.* not yet found or known
28. ex\_\_\_e remains *v.* to dig up or remove something, especially a corpse, from a grave or other burial place; to uncover or bring something hidden or forgotten to light

ANSWERS: 21. storytelling, 22. orphan, 23. remnant, 24. toothbrush, 25. mundane, 26. artifact, 27. undiscovered, 28. exhume

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.
  - v. to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance
  
2. The only \_\_\_\_\_ left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.
  - n. a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
  
3. The authorities had to \_\_\_\_\_ the body for further investigation into the cause of death.
  - v. to dig up or remove something, especially a corpse, from a grave or other burial place; to uncover or bring something hidden or forgotten to light
  
4. The little girl was a war \_\_\_\_\_ and lived in a group home.
  - n. a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them
  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is also necessary to understand history.
  - n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
  
6. Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which \_\_\_\_\_ coastal areas.
  - v. to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
  
7. Considering the recent increase in interest rates, we must \_\_\_\_\_ our plans to buy a new house.
  - v. to put or arrange something, especially books, on a shelf; to decide not to take action on something either for a short time or permanently

ANSWERS: 1. presume, 2. remnant, 3. exhume, 4. orphan, 5. Empathy, 6. devastate, 7. shelve

8. My \_\_\_\_\_ with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.  
*n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
9. The museum has a vast collection of Greek \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
10. The jungle is full of \_\_\_\_\_ species waiting to be found.  
*adj.* not yet found or known
11. I always use mint-flavored \_\_\_\_\_ to refresh my mouth in the morning and at night.  
*n.* a paste or gel used for cleaning the teeth and freshening the breath
12. After returning from the war, he had a pretty \_\_\_\_\_ life.  
*adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
13. His wealth is a \_\_\_\_\_ to his success.  
*n.* a thing that proves the existence or truth of something else
14. She was skilled in \_\_\_\_\_ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.  
*n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 8. toothbrush, 9. artifacts, 10. undiscovered, 11. toothpaste, 12. mundane, 13. testament, 14. storytelling