

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Beardyman: The polyphonic me | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/beardyman\\_the\\_polyphonic\\_me](https://www.ted.com/talks/beardyman_the_polyphonic_me)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### beatbox

*n.* a style of vocal percussion or vocal mimicry in which a person creates rhythmic sounds and beats using their mouth, lips, tongue, and voice; (verb) to create percussive sounds, rhythms, and beats using the mouth, lips, tongue, and voice

*synonym*: mouth drum, lip-smack percussion

(1) **beatbox** rhythm, (2) **beatbox** battle

His **beatbox** performance at the concert was mind-blowing.

### boomerang

*n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it

*synonym*: bouncing bomb, comeback, backfire

(1) **boomerang** effect, (2) throw a **boomerang**

The criticism that he gave to his boss ended up **boomeranging** on himself.

### repertoire

*n.* the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something

*synonym*: collection, range, reservoir

(1) musical **repertoire**, (2) cooking **repertoire**

The chef's **repertoire** of dishes includes both classic and innovative recipes.

## hem

*n.* the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish

*synonym*: edge, border, margin

(1) the **hem** of a dress, (2) **hem** the skirt

The **hem** length of her dress was perfect for the evening event.

## monk

*n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience

*synonym*: friar, cleric, brother

(1) **monk** lifestyle, (2) cloistered **monk**

The ascetic **monk** spent his days in prayer and contemplation in the monastery.

## annoy

*v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

*synonym*: aggravate, irritate, unsettle

(1) **annoy** at the time, (2) **annoy** everyone else

Her constant chatter was starting to **annoy** the neighbors.

## impede

*v.* to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress

*synonym*: hinder, obstruct, block

(1) **impede** a close relationship, (2) **impede** development

The traffic jam **impeded** our progress to reach the destination on time.

## reiterate

*v.* to repeat something, typically for emphasis or clarity; to say or do something again and again

*synonym*: repeat, iterate, restate

(1) **reiterate** a point, (2) **reiterate** their commitment

I need to **reiterate** the importance of submitting your report

by the deadline.

## mangle

*v.* to damage or alter something by twisting, crushing, or pressing it out of shape

*synonym*: crush, deform, disfigure

(1) **mangle** my foot, (2) **mangled** their favorite toy

The machine **mangled** the sheet of metal beyond repair.

## polyphony

*n.* music consisting of two or more independent melodies or voices sounding together

*synonym*: multi-part, harmonization, counterpoint

(1) a beautiful **polyphony**, (2) the **polyphony** of the music

The composer wrote a complex **polyphony** for the orchestra, featuring multiple layers of sound.

## clap

*v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise

*synonym*: applaud, spat, acclaim

(1) **clap** my hands, (2) **clap** a book shut

We **clapped** along with the singer's song.

## synthesizer

*n.* an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals and is used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments to entirely new sounds

*synonym*: sampler, sequencer, module

(1) **synthesizer** bass, (2) music **synthesizer**

The electronic **synthesizer** created a range of unique sounds for the music.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. be\_\_\_\_x battle  
*n.* a style of vocal percussion or vocal mimicry in which a person creates rhythmic sounds and beats using their mouth, lips, tongue, and voice; (verb) to create percussive sounds, rhythms, and beats using the mouth, lips, tongue, and voice
2. be\_\_\_\_x rhythm  
*n.* a style of vocal percussion or vocal mimicry in which a person creates rhythmic sounds and beats using their mouth, lips, tongue, and voice; (verb) to create percussive sounds, rhythms, and beats using the mouth, lips, tongue, and voice
3. music syn\_\_\_\_\_er  
*n.* an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals and is used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments to entirely new sounds
4. im\_\_\_e development  
*v.* to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
5. a beautiful po\_\_\_\_\_ny  
*n.* music consisting of two or more independent melodies or voices sounding together
6. c\_\_p my hands  
*v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise

ANSWERS: 1. beatbox, 2. beatbox, 3. synthesizer, 4. impede, 5. polyphony, 6. clap

7. the h\_m of a dress      *n.* the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
8. bo\_\_\_\_\_ng effect      *n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
9. an\_\_y at the time      *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
10. h\_m the skirt      *n.* the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
11. re\_\_\_\_\_te their commitment      *v.* to repeat something, typically for emphasis or clarity; to say or do something again and again
12. c\_\_p a book shut      *v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
13. cloistered m\_\_k      *n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
14. cooking rep\_\_\_\_\_re      *n.* the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something

ANSWERS: 7. hem, 8. boomerang, 9. annoy, 10. hem, 11. reiterate, 12. clap, 13. monk, 14. repertoire

15. the po\_\_\_\_\_ny of the music      *n.* music consisting of two or more independent melodies or voices sounding together
16. syn\_\_\_\_\_er bass      *n.* an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals and is used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments to entirely new sounds
17. throw a bo\_\_\_\_\_ng      *n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
18. re\_\_\_\_\_te a point      *v.* to repeat something, typically for emphasis or clarity; to say or do something again and again
19. ma\_\_\_ed their favorite toy      *v.* to damage or alter something by twisting, crushing, or pressing it out of shape
20. an\_\_y everyone else      *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
21. ma\_\_\_e my foot      *v.* to damage or alter something by twisting, crushing, or pressing it out of shape
22. im\_\_\_e a close relationship      *v.* to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
23. musical rep\_\_\_\_\_re      *n.* the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something

ANSWERS: 15. polyphony, 16. synthesizer, 17. boomerang, 18. reiterate, 19. mangle, 20. annoy, 21. mangle, 22. impede, 23. repertoire

24. m\_\_k lifestyle

*n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience

ANSWERS: 24. monk

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The criticism that he gave to his boss ended up \_\_\_\_\_ on himself.
  - n.* a curved, flat wooden or metal weapon that is thrown and can return to the thrower; a plan, action, or attempt that unintentionally rebounds on the person who initiates it
  
2. The chef's \_\_\_\_\_ of dishes includes both classic and innovative recipes.
  - n.* the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something
  
3. The composer wrote a complex \_\_\_\_\_ for the orchestra, featuring multiple layers of sound.
  - n.* music consisting of two or more independent melodies or voices sounding together
  
4. The ascetic \_\_\_\_\_ spent his days in prayer and contemplation in the monastery.
  - n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
  
5. We \_\_\_\_\_ along with the singer's song.
  - v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
  
6. His \_\_\_\_\_ performance at the concert was mind-blowing.
  - n.* a style of vocal percussion or vocal mimicry in which a person creates rhythmic sounds and beats using their mouth, lips, tongue, and voice; (verb) to create percussive sounds, rhythms, and beats using the mouth, lips, tongue, and voice

ANSWERS: 1. boomeranging, 2. repertoire, 3. polyphony, 4. monk, 5. clapped, 6. beatbox



7. The traffic jam \_\_\_\_\_ our progress to reach the destination on time.
- v. to obstruct or block someone or something to slow down or prevent progress
8. The electronic \_\_\_\_\_ created a range of unique sounds for the music.
- n. an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals and is used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments to entirely new sounds
9. The machine \_\_\_\_\_ the sheet of metal beyond repair.
- v. to damage or alter something by twisting, crushing, or pressing it out of shape
10. I need to \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of submitting your report by the deadline.
- v. to repeat something, typically for emphasis or clarity; to say or do something again and again
11. The \_\_\_\_ length of her dress was perfect for the evening event.
- n. the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
12. Her constant chatter was starting to \_\_\_\_\_ the neighbors.
- v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

ANSWERS: 7. impeded, 8. synthesizer, 9. mangled, 10. reiterate, 11. hem, 12. annoy