

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Damian Palin: Mining minerals from seawater | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/damian\\_palin\\_mining\\_minerals\\_from\\_seawater](https://www.ted.com/talks/damian_palin_mining_minerals_from_seawater)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### pervasive

*adj.* spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place

*synonym*: extensive, ubiquitous, prevalent

(1) **pervasive** language, (2) the **pervasive** odor of garlic  
Suspicion and worry were **pervasive** in our minds.

### desalination

*n.* the process of removing salt, especially from seawater

(1) shut down a **desalination** plant, (2) water **desalination**  
He worked on improving the equipment using the freeze-**desalination** method.

### seawater

*n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals

*synonym*: saltwater, brine, ocean water

(1) **seawater** pollution, (2) **seawater** bacteria  
The desalination plant turned **seawater** into drinking water through a complex process.

### osmosis

*n.* the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to

another

*synonym* : diffusion, permeation, absorption

(1) **osmosis** process, (2) **osmosis** tube

The roots of plants absorb water and nutrients through **osmosis**.

**brine**

*n.* a strong solution of salt water used for preserving food, especially meat or fish; saline water found in salt mines or evaporated from seawater

*synonym* : saltwater, seawater, saline

(1) **brine** solution, (2) **brine** shrimp

The recipe called for a teaspoon of **brine** to add flavor.

**prohibitive**

*adj.* tending to or effectively preventing or inhibiting an action, choice, or possibility due to being too expensive, difficult, or unreasonable; serving as a deterrent or barrier

*synonym* : exorbitant, expensive, obstructive

(1) **prohibitive** cost, (2) **prohibitive** regulations

The **prohibitive** import tariff made it hard for the local market to offer competitive prices.

**detrimental**

*adj.* causing harm or damage

*synonym* : harmful, damaging, injurious

(1) **detrimental** eating habits, (2) **detrimental** to good health

The new policy had a **detrimental** impact on small businesses.

**equate**

*v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous

*synonym* : associate, liken, relate

(1) **equate** mistakes with failure, (2) **equate** to legal responsibility

It isn't very reasonable to **equate** money with happiness.

## industrious

*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

*synonym* : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

## defile

*v.* to pollute, contaminate, or make impure, often in a moral or religious sense; to violate or desecrate something sacred or cherished

*synonym* : pollute, taint, contaminate

(1) **defile** a river, (2) **defile** the land

The vandals **defiled** the church by spray-painting graffiti on the walls.

## precipitate

*v.* to cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly; to cause a solid substance to form from a dissolved liquid or gas by means of a chemical reaction or physical process

*synonym* : hasten, accelerate, expedite

(1) **precipitate** a reaction, (2) **precipitate** a global energy crisis

The sudden rainstorm will **precipitate** flooding in low-lying areas.

## Session 2: Spelling

1. de\_\_\_e a river  
*v.* to pollute, contaminate, or make impure, often in a moral or religious sense; to violate or desecrate something sacred or cherished
2. os\_\_\_\_s process  
*n.* the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another
3. br\_\_e shrimp  
*n.* a strong solution of salt water used for preserving food, especially meat or fish; saline water found in salt mines or evaporated from seawater
4. de\_\_\_e the land  
*v.* to pollute, contaminate, or make impure, often in a moral or religious sense; to violate or desecrate something sacred or cherished
5. ind\_\_\_\_us worker  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
6. pre\_\_\_\_te a reaction  
*v.* to cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly; to cause a solid substance to form from a dissolved liquid or gas by means of a chemical reaction or physical process

ANSWERS: 1. defile, 2. osmosis, 3. brine, 4. defile, 5. industrious, 6. precipitate

7. br\_\_e solution *n.* a strong solution of salt water used for preserving food, especially meat or fish; saline water found in salt mines or evaporated from seawater
8. det\_\_\_\_\_al eating habits *adj.* causing harm or damage
9. pro\_\_\_\_\_ve regulations *adj.* tending to or effectively preventing or inhibiting an action, choice, or possibility due to being too expensive, difficult, or unreasonable; serving as a deterrent or barrier
10. pe\_\_\_\_\_ve language *adj.* spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place
11. shut down a des\_\_\_\_\_ion plant *n.* the process of removing salt, especially from seawater
12. the pe\_\_\_\_\_ve odor of garlic *adj.* spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place
13. det\_\_\_\_\_al to good health *adj.* causing harm or damage
14. se\_\_\_\_\_er pollution *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
15. eq\_\_\_e mistakes with failure *v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous
16. se\_\_\_\_\_er bacteria *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
17. eq\_\_\_e to legal responsibility *v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous
18. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 7. brine, 8. detrimental, 9. prohibitive, 10. pervasive, 11. desalination, 12. pervasive, 13. detrimental, 14. seawater, 15. equate, 16. seawater, 17. equate, 18. industrious

19. os\_\_\_\_\_s tube *n.* the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another
20. water des\_\_\_\_\_ion *n.* the process of removing salt, especially from seawater
21. pro\_\_\_\_\_ve cost *adj.* tending to or effectively preventing or inhibiting an action, choice, or possibility due to being too expensive, difficult, or unreasonable; serving as a deterrent or barrier
22. pre\_\_\_\_\_te a global energy crisis *v.* to cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly; to cause a solid substance to form from a dissolved liquid or gas by means of a chemical reaction or physical process

ANSWERS: 19. osmosis, 20. desalination, 21. prohibitive, 22. precipitate

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
2. The new policy had a \_\_\_\_\_ impact on small businesses.  
*adj.* causing harm or damage
3. He worked on improving the equipment using the freeze-\_\_\_\_\_ method.  
*n.* the process of removing salt, especially from seawater
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ import tariff made it hard for the local market to offer competitive prices.  
*adj.* tending to or effectively preventing or inhibiting an action, choice, or possibility due to being too expensive, difficult, or unreasonable; serving as a deterrent or barrier
5. The vandals \_\_\_\_\_ the church by spray-painting graffiti on the walls.  
*v.* to pollute, contaminate, or make impure, often in a moral or religious sense; to violate or desecrate something sacred or cherished
6. Suspicion and worry were \_\_\_\_\_ in our minds.  
*adj.* spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place
7. The roots of plants absorb water and nutrients through \_\_\_\_\_.  
*n.* the process by which molecules of a solvent (such as water) move through a semipermeable membrane from a region of higher concentration to a region of lower concentration; the gradual or subtle absorption of knowledge, ideas, or influence from one source to another

ANSWERS: 1. industrious, 2. detrimental, 3. desalination, 4. prohibitive, 5. defiled, 6. pervasive, 7. osmosis

8. It isn't very reasonable to \_\_\_\_\_ money with happiness.
- v.* to consider or describe one thing as similar, equal, or analogous
9. The recipe called for a teaspoon of \_\_\_\_\_ to add flavor.
- n.* a strong solution of salt water used for preserving food, especially meat or fish; saline water found in salt mines or evaporated from seawater
10. The desalination plant turned \_\_\_\_\_ into drinking water through a complex process.
- n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
11. The sudden rainstorm will \_\_\_\_\_ flooding in low-lying areas.
- v.* to cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly; to cause a solid substance to form from a dissolved liquid or gas by means of a chemical reaction or physical process

ANSWERS: 8. equate, 9. brine, 10. seawater, 11. precipitate