

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Doris Kim Sung: Metal that breathes | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/doris\\_kim\\_sung\\_metal\\_that\\_breathes](https://www.ted.com/talks/doris_kim_sung_metal_that_breathes)

### 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

### stuffy

*adj.* lacking fresh air or ventilation; oppressively warm; lacking in excitement or variety; formal in manner or behavior

*synonym*: stuffy, suffocating, oppressive

(1) ventilate a **stuffy** office, (2) **stuffy** atmosphere

The **stuffy** classroom made it hard to breathe during the summer heat.

### smelly

*adj.* having a strong, unpleasant, or offensive odor, particularly about something decomposing or otherwise spoiled

*synonym*: stinky, malodorous, fetid

(1) **smelly** socks, (2) **smelly** trash

I can't stand the **smelly** odor from the garbage can, and it's unbearable.

### overheat

*v.* to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot

*synonym*: become too hot, heat up too much

(1) **overheat** while charging, (2) starts to **overheat**

The car engine **overheated** and had to be repaired.

### overused

*adj.* used too often or too much, to the point of becoming cliched; lacking originality

*synonym* : overworked, overutilized, exhausted

(1) **overused** common, (2) **overused** cliché

The concept of time travel has become **overused** in science fiction and fantasy, with many movies and books exploring the idea.

## unobstructed

*adj.* not blocked or hindered; free from obstacles or impediments

*synonym* : clear, unrestricted, unblocked

(1) **unobstructed** airflow, (2) **unobstructed** path

The hiker enjoyed the **unobstructed** view from the top of the mountain.

## irreversible

*adj.* impossible to change or return to a previous condition

*synonym* : irrevocable, unrecoverable, permanent

(1) avoid **irreversible** damage, (2) an **irreversible** change

The development of agricultural technology has had an **irreversible** impact on humanity.

## uninhabitable

*adj.* not suitable or safe for people to live in; lacking the necessary conditions for human habitation

*synonym* : desolate, dilapidated, unlivable

(1) **uninhabitable** conditions, (2) **uninhabitable** apartment

The hurricane left many coastal areas **uninhabitable** for a long time.

## rut

*n.* a long track or groove worn into the ground, typically by the repeated passage of wheels or other heavy objects; a fixed, boring or monotonous routine or course of action

*synonym* : groove, track, estrus

(1) falling into a **rut**, (2) boring routine **rut**

The company seems stuck in a **rut** and needs to try something new.

## laminate

*n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring

*synonym* :

veneer, coating, layer

(1) **lamine** flooring, (2) **lamine** table

The countertop in my kitchen is made of durable **lamine** material.

## ventilate

v. to supply fresh air to a room, building, etc.; to remove stale air from it

*synonym*: air out, circulate, freshen

(1) **ventilate** my opinion, (2) **ventilate** air

It's important to **ventilate** the room to avoid the buildup of harmful gases.

## multiplicity

n. a large number or variety of something; the quality or state of being multiple or manifold

*synonym*: abundance, variety, diversity

(1) functional **multiplicity**, (2) **multiplicity** of languages

The **multiplicity** of colors in the sunset was truly breathtaking.

## sunshade

n. a device or material used to protect someone or something from the sun's rays, particularly a parasol or umbrella; a structure or covering that shades a window or outdoor area

*synonym*: umbrella, awning, parasol

(1) **sunshade** canopy, (2) car **sunshade**

The beach umbrella provided a **sunshade** for us during the hot summer day.

## constrict

v. to make something narrow or tight, often restricting movement or flow; to become narrow or tighter

*synonym*: squeeze, compress, tighten

(1) **constrict** blood vessels, (2) **constrict** freedom

The snake's muscles began to **constrict** around its prey.

## timelapse

n. a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion

of time moving quickly

(1) **timelapse** photography, (2) capture **timelapse** footage  
The **timelapse** video beautifully captured the changing seasons over a year.

## calibrate

v. to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

*synonym*: adjust, fine-tune

(1) **calibrate** machinery, (2) **calibrate** measurements

It's important to **calibrate** the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.

## sheath

n. a close-fitting cover to protect something such as the blade of a knife, sword, or other sharp objects

*synonym*: covering, case

(1) a sword **sheath**, (2) peripheral nerve **sheath**

He had long suffered from inflammation of a tendon **sheath**.

## drape

v. to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material

*synonym*: cover, hang, arrange

(1) **drape** a coat, (2) **drape** a curtain

She **draped** a shawl over her shoulders to keep warm.

## glaze

v. to cover or coat with a thin layer of film, particularly a shiny or glossy layer, such as a layer of protective material on ceramics or a top coat of paint on a surface; to apply a thin, glossy coating to food, often using a sauce or syrup

*synonym*: coat, enamel, varnish

(1) **glaze** a window, (2) **glaze** over eyes

The baker used a brush to **glaze** the donuts with a sweet, shiny coating.

## **cilium**

*n.* a microscopic, hair-like cellular projection that is found on the surface of many cells in the body, helping them to move or trap debris

*synonym* : eyelash, flagellum

(1) **cilium** movement, (2) primary **cilium**

The microscopic analysis revealed a **cilium's** presence on the single-celled organism's surface.

## **eyelash**

*n.* any of the short hairs that grow around the eyes

*synonym* : lash, cilium

(1) **eyelash** brush, (2) not bat an **eyelash**

An **eyelash** curler is a girl's best friend.

## **grasshopper**

*n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality

*synonym* : locust, katydid, cricket

(1) **grasshopper** mice, (2) **grasshopper** species

The **grasshopper** leaped from one blade of grass to another.

## **spiracle**

*n.* a small opening or hole, particularly used to refer to the breathing holes found in insects, fish, and some other animals

*synonym* : breathing hole, vent, air hole

(1) gill **spiracle**, (2) respiratory **spiracle**

The insect's **spiracle** was visible on its abdomen, allowing it to breathe.

## **electrify**

*v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

*synonym* : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

## **tirelessly**

*adv.* without getting tired or fatigued; persistently, energetically, and continuously working with great effort

*synonym*: inexhaustibly, indefatigably, unceasingly

(1) dedicated **tirelessly**, (2) **tirelessly** help out

She worked **tirelessly** for hours to finish her project on time.

## **endlessly**

*adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

*synonym*: ceaselessly, interminably, unceasingly

(1) repeat **endlessly**, (2) worry **endlessly** about our future

The procession of demonstrators was **endlessly** continuing.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                          |      |   |
|--------------------------|------|---|
| 1. co_____ct freedom     | v.   | to make something narrow or tight, often restricting movement or flow; to become narrow or tighter  |
| 2. boring routine r_t    | n.   | a long track or groove worn into the ground, typically by the repeated passage of wheels or other heavy objects; a fixed, boring or monotonous routine or course of action                      |
| 3. dr__e a curtain       | v.   | to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material  |
| 4. car su_____de         | n.   | a device or material used to protect someone or something from the sun's rays, particularly a parasol or umbrella; a structure or covering that shades a window or outdoor area                 |
| 5. uni_____ble apartment | adj. | not suitable or safe for people to live in; lacking the necessary conditions for human habitation   |
| 6. a sword sh___h        | n.   | a close-fitting cover to protect something such as the blade of a knife, sword, or other sharp objects  |
| 7. ti_____se photography | n.   | a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly |

ANSWERS: 1. constrict, 2. rut, 3. drape, 4. sunshade, 5. uninhabitable, 6. sheath, 7. timelapse

8. gra\_\_\_\_\_er species *n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
9. uni\_\_\_\_\_ble conditions *adj.* not suitable or safe for people to live in; lacking the necessary conditions for human habitation
10. ca\_\_\_\_\_te machinery *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
11. ov\_\_\_\_\_at while charging *v.* to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot
12. ve\_\_\_\_\_te my opinion *v.* to supply fresh air to a room, building, etc.; to remove stale air from it
13. functional mul\_\_\_\_\_ity *n.* a large number or variety of something; the quality or state of being multiple or manifold
14. sm\_\_\_\_y socks *adj.* having a strong, unpleasant, or offensive odor, particularly about something decomposing or otherwise spoiled
15. peripheral nerve sh\_\_\_\_h *n.* a close-fitting cover to protect something such as the blade of a knife, sword, or other sharp objects
16. sm\_\_\_\_y trash *adj.* having a strong, unpleasant, or offensive odor, particularly about something decomposing or otherwise spoiled
17. st\_\_\_\_y atmosphere *adj.* lacking fresh air or ventilation; oppressively warm; lacking in excitement or variety; formal in manner or behavior

ANSWERS: 8. grasshopper, 9. uninhabitable, 10. calibrate, 11. overheat, 12. ventilate, 13. multiplicity, 14. smelly, 15. sheath, 16. smelly, 17. stuffy



18. uno\_\_\_\_\_ted airflow *adj.* not blocked or hindered; free from obstacles or impediments
19. mul\_\_\_\_\_ity of languages *n.* a large number or variety of something; the quality or state of being multiple or manifold
20. worry en\_\_\_\_\_ly about our future *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
21. gra\_\_\_\_\_er mice *n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
22. primary ci\_\_\_m *n.* a microscopic, hair-like cellular projection that is found on the surface of many cells in the body, helping them to move or trap debris
23. respiratory sp\_\_\_\_\_le *n.* a small opening or hole, particularly used to refer to the breathing holes found in insects, fish, and some other animals
24. ey\_\_\_\_\_h brush *n.* any of the short hairs that grow around the eyes
25. dr\_\_e a coat *v.* to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material
26. starts to ov\_\_\_\_\_at *v.* to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot
27. tir\_\_\_\_\_ly help out *adv.* without getting tired or fatigued; persistently, energetically, and continuously working with great effort
28. repeat en\_\_\_\_\_ly *adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit

ANSWERS: 18. unobstructed, 19. multiplicity, 20. endlessly, 21. grasshopper, 22. cilium, 23. spiracle, 24. eyelash, 25. drape, 26. overheat, 27. tirelessly, 28. endlessly

29. la\_\_\_\_\_te flooring *n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring
30. el\_\_\_\_\_fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
31. co\_\_\_\_\_ct blood vessels *v.* to make something narrow or tight, often restricting movement or flow; to become narrow or tighter
32. gl\_\_e a window *v.* to cover or coat with a thin layer of film, particularly a shiny or glossy layer, such as a layer of protective material on ceramics or a top coat of paint on a surface; to apply a thin, glossy coating to food, often using a sauce or syrup
33. ventilate a st\_\_\_y office *adj.* lacking fresh air or ventilation; oppressively warm; lacking in excitement or variety; formal in manner or behavior
34. el\_\_\_\_\_fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
35. falling into a r\_t *n.* a long track or groove worn into the ground, typically by the repeated passage of wheels or other heavy objects; a fixed, boring or monotonous routine or course of action

ANSWERS: 29. laminate, 30. electrify, 31. constrict, 32. glaze, 33. stuffy, 34. electrify, 35. rut

36. ca\_\_\_\_\_te measurements      *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
37. uno\_\_\_\_\_ted path      *adj.* not blocked or hindered; free from obstacles or impediments
38. gill sp\_\_\_\_\_le      *n.* a small opening or hole, particularly used to refer to the breathing holes found in insects, fish, and some other animals
39. la\_\_\_\_\_te table      *n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring
40. su\_\_\_\_\_de canopy      *n.* a device or material used to protect someone or something from the sun's rays, particularly a parasol or umbrella; a structure or covering that shades a window or outdoor area
41. avoid irr\_\_\_\_\_ble damage      *adj.* impossible to change or return to a previous condition
42. dedicated tir\_\_\_\_\_ly      *adv.* without getting tired or fatigued; persistently, energetically, and continuously working with great effort
43. ve\_\_\_\_\_te air      *v.* to supply fresh air to a room, building, etc.; to remove stale air from it
44. capture ti\_\_\_\_\_se footage      *n.* a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly

ANSWERS: 36. calibrate, 37. unobstructed, 38. spiracle, 39. laminate, 40. sunshade, 41. irreversible, 42. tirelessly, 43. ventilate, 44. timelapse

45. an irr\_\_\_\_\_ble change      *adj.* impossible to change or return to a previous condition
46. not bat an ey\_\_\_\_\_h      *n.* any of the short hairs that grow around the eyes
47. gl\_\_e over eyes      *v.* to cover or coat with a thin layer of film, particularly a shiny or glossy layer, such as a layer of protective material on ceramics or a top coat of paint on a surface; to apply a thin, glossy coating to food, often using a sauce or syrup
48. ov\_\_\_\_\_ed cliché      *adj.* used too often or too much, to the point of becoming cliched; lacking originality
49. ci\_\_\_\_\_m movement      *n.* a microscopic, hair-like cellular projection that is found on the surface of many cells in the body, helping them to move or trap debris
50. ov\_\_\_\_\_ed common      *adj.* used too often or too much, to the point of becoming cliched; lacking originality

ANSWERS: 45. irreversible, 46. eyelash, 47. glaze, 48. overused, 49. cilium, 50. overused

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ leaped from one blade of grass to another.  
*n.* large jumping insect; used to symbolize restlessness or ephemerality
2. She worked \_\_\_\_\_ for hours to finish her project on time.  
*adv.* without getting tired or fatigued; persistently, energetically, and continuously working with great effort
3. The hiker enjoyed the \_\_\_\_\_ view from the top of the mountain.  
*adj.* not blocked or hindered; free from obstacles or impediments
4. The baker used a brush to \_\_\_\_\_ the donuts with a sweet, shiny coating.  
*v.* to cover or coat with a thin layer of film, particularly a shiny or glossy layer, such as a layer of protective material on ceramics or a top coat of paint on a surface; to apply a thin, glossy coating to food, often using a sauce or syrup
5. An \_\_\_\_\_ curler is a girl's best friend.  
*n.* any of the short hairs that grow around the eyes
6. She \_\_\_\_\_ a shawl over her shoulders to keep warm.  
*v.* to arrange or hang cloth or clothing loosely over something, typically in a decorative way; to cover or decorate loosely with material
7. The countertop in my kitchen is made of durable \_\_\_\_\_ material.  
*n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring
8. I can't stand the \_\_\_\_\_ odor from the garbage can, and it's unbearable.  
*adj.* having a strong, unpleasant, or offensive odor, particularly about something decomposing or otherwise spoiled

ANSWERS: 1. grasshopper, 2. tirelessly, 3. unobstructed, 4. glaze, 5. eyelash, 6. draped, 7. laminate, 8. smelly

9. The snake's muscles began to \_\_\_\_\_ around its prey.
- v.* to make something narrow or tight, often restricting movement or flow; to become narrow or tighter
10. The microscopic analysis revealed a \_\_\_\_\_ presence on the single-celled organism's surface.
- n.* a microscopic, hair-like cellular projection that is found on the surface of many cells in the body, helping them to move or trap debris
11. The \_\_\_\_\_ of colors in the sunset was truly breathtaking.
- n.* a large number or variety of something; the quality or state of being multiple or manifold
12. The procession of demonstrators was \_\_\_\_\_ continuing.
- adv.* in a way that continues for a long time or seems to have no end or limit
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ video beautifully captured the changing seasons over a year.
- n.* a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly
14. The product developed through years of research continues to \_\_\_\_\_ the market.
- v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
15. The beach umbrella provided a \_\_\_\_\_ for us during the hot summer day.
- n.* a device or material used to protect someone or something from the sun's rays, particularly a parasol or umbrella; a structure or covering that shades a window or outdoor area

ANSWERS: 9. constrict, 10. cilium's, 11. multiplicity, 12. endlessly, 13. timelapse, 14. electrify, 15. sunshade

16. The development of agricultural technology has had an \_\_\_\_\_ impact on humanity.

*adj.* impossible to change or return to a previous condition

17. The concept of time travel has become \_\_\_\_\_ in science fiction and fantasy, with many movies and books exploring the idea.

*adj.* used too often or too much, to the point of becoming cliched; lacking originality

18. It's important to \_\_\_\_\_ the room to avoid the buildup of harmful gases.

*v.* to supply fresh air to a room, building, etc.; to remove stale air from it

19. The hurricane left many coastal areas \_\_\_\_\_ for a long time.

*adj.* not suitable or safe for people to live in; lacking the necessary conditions for human habitation

20. The car engine \_\_\_\_\_ and had to be repaired.

*v.* to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot

21. The \_\_\_\_\_ classroom made it hard to breathe during the summer heat.

*adj.* lacking fresh air or ventilation; oppressively warm; lacking in excitement or variety; formal in manner or behavior

22. The insect's \_\_\_\_\_ was visible on its abdomen, allowing it to breathe.

*n.* a small opening or hole, particularly used to refer to the breathing holes found in insects, fish, and some other animals

23. The company seems stuck in a \_\_\_\_ and needs to try something new.

*n.* a long track or groove worn into the ground, typically by the repeated passage of wheels or other heavy objects; a fixed, boring or monotonous routine or course of action

ANSWERS: 16. irreversible, 17. overused, 18. ventilate, 19. uninhabitable, 20. overheated, 21. stuffy, 22. spiracle, 23. rut

24. He had long suffered from inflammation of a tendon \_\_\_\_\_.

- n.* a close-fitting cover to protect something such as the blade of a knife, sword, or other sharp objects

25. It's important to \_\_\_\_\_ the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.

- v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

ANSWERS: 24. sheath, 25. calibrate