

# Englist.me



## Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Kenny Coogan: Can alligators survive this apex predator? | TED Talk*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/kenny\\_coogan\\_can\\_alligators\\_survive\\_this\\_apex\\_predator](https://www.ted.com/talks/kenny_coogan_can_alligators_survive_this_apex_predator)

### Advanced Words Only

#### IMPORTANT

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## Session 1: Word List

### verdant

*adj.* lush and green, often used to describe plant life; denoting youthfulness or inexperience

*synonym* : lush, green, leafy

(1) **verdant** fields, (2) **verdant** trees

The **verdant** meadow was a peaceful spot for a picnic.

### swamp

*n.* an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation

*synonym* : marsh, mire, bog

(1) muddy **swamp**, (2) **swamp** tour

The lowland **swamp** was full of dangerous animals and poisonous plants.

### alligator

*n.* a large semiaquatic reptile with a long tail, powerful jaws, and rough skin, native to the Americas and China

*synonym* : crocodile, caiman, gator

(1) **alligator** habitat, (2) **alligator** watch strap

**Alligator** skin is used to make purses, boots, and other luxury goods.

### hurtle

*v.* to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way

*synonym* : throw, hurl, fling

(1) **hurtle** into a tunnel, (2) **hurtle** through life  
The car **hurtled** down the highway at breakneck speed.

## apex

*n.* the highest point or tip of something

*synonym*: summit, peak, zenith

(1) **apex** predator, (2) **apex** position

The company reached the **apex** of success in the market.

## predator

*n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

*synonym*: vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

## devour

*v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly

*synonym*: consume, swallow, destroy

(1) **devour** a meal, (2) **devour** my way

She **devoured** the mystery novel in one sitting.

## invade

*v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

*synonym*: intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

## subtropic

*adj.* describing a region or climate that is between tropical and temperate and often characterized by warm temperatures and moderate rainfall

*synonym*: semi-tropical, warm

(1) **subtropic** vegetation, (2) **subtropic** region

The **subtropic** climate made for hot and humid weather all year round.

## ecotone

*n.* a transition zone between two distinct ecosystems or biomes, characterized by a mixture of features and species from both areas; an area of high biodiversity

due to the diversity of habitats and species found there  
*synonym* : transition zone, borderland, edge habitat

(1) **ecotone** boundary, (2) diverse **ecotone**

The **ecotone** between the mountain and the valley provides a transitional habitat for various animal species.

## mangrove

*n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it

(1) **mangrove** forest, (2) **mangrove** swamp

The **mangrove** trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.

## migrant

*n.* a traveler who moves from one region or country to another, especially to find work or better living conditions; a bird or an animal that moves from one place to another

*synonym* : immigrant, itinerant, transient

(1) **migrant** worker, (2) the movement of **migrant** birds

The government revoked his license to employ **migrant** labor crews.

## colonize

*v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

*synonym* : settle, occupy, inhabit

(1) **colonize** planets, (2) **colonize** for cultivation

European powers **colonized** much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

## boar

*n.* a wild pig, especially a male with tusks

*synonym* : wild pig, sow, hog

(1) wild **boar**, (2) **boar's** head

The hunter tracked the **boar** through the forest for a good shot.

## uproot

*v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from

a particular place or position

*synonym* : remove, eradicate

(1) **uproot** the tree, (2) **uproot** tradition

We decided to **uproot** our lives and move to a new city.

## parasite

*n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense

*synonym* : hitchhiker, leech, saprophyte

(1) blood-sucking **parasite**, (2) **parasite** disease

Tapeworms are **parasites** that live in the intestines of humans and animals.

## panther

*n.* a large and powerful wildcat with a distinctive sleek black coat found primarily in the Americas, Africa, and Asia

*synonym* : panthera, big cat, feline

(1) black **panther**, (2) **panther** habitat

The **panther's** sleek black coat and piercing yellow eyes make for a striking vision in the forest.

## 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.

## explode

*v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

*synonym* : detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity

The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

## hyacinth

*n.* (also "jacinth") a fragrant flowering plant with clustered flowers that grow on a tall, spiky stem, typically in shades of blue, purple, or pink

*synonym* : jacinth

(1) **hyacinth** flower, (2) blue **hyacinth**

The beautiful purple **hyacinth** flowers bloomed every spring in the garden.

## clog

*v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something

*synonym*: block, jam, obstruct

(1) **clog** a filter, (2) **clog** artery

The drain was **clogged** with hair and needed to be cleaned out.

## anole

*n.* a type of small, arboreal lizard native to the Americas, known for its ability to change color and its distinctive triangular head shape

*synonym*: chameleon, lizard, reptile

(1) tropical **anole**, (2) **anole** habitat

I spotted a small **anole** lizard hiding in the bushes.

## lizard

*n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail

(1) giant **lizard**, (2) **lizard** leather

The **lizard's** tail regenerates if severed.

## onslaught

*n.* a fierce or violent attack; a sudden and intense outburst of something, usually negative

*synonym*: attack, assault, charge

(1) **onslaught** of criticism, (2) urban **onslaught**

The village was unprepared for the sudden **onslaught** of the enemy army.

## farmland

*n.* land used for farming or agricultural purposes

*synonym*: agriculture, cropland

(1) **farmland** acreage, (2) fertile **farmland**

The government is encouraging farmers to expand their **farmland** to increase food production.

## supple

*adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas

*synonym* : flexible, pliable, bendable

(1) **supple** muscles, (2) **supple** leather

The ballerina's **supple** movements left the audience mesmerized.

## wreak

*v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events

*synonym* : cause, inflict, bring about

(1) **wreak** a lot of changes, (2) **wreak** further damage

The virus has **wreaked** havoc on the healthcare system, overwhelming hospitals and causing shortages of supplies.

## havoc

*n.* widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events

*synonym* : destruction, devastation, ruin

(1) cause **havoc**, (2) play **havoc** in the mind

The storm wreaked **havoc** on the town, causing widespread damage and power outages.

## conservationist

*n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

*synonym* : environmentalist

(1) wildlife **conservationist**, (2) dedicated **conservationist**

The extinction of this species has been a significant concern for **conservationists**.

## fearsome

*adj.* causing fear or terror; frightening, alarming, or formidable

*synonym* : terrifying, alarming, intimidating

(1) **fearsome** creature, (2) **fearsome** reputation

The dragon's **fearsome** roar echoed through the valley.

## snout

*n.* the nose and mouth of an animal, especially when protruding or prominently featured

*synonym* : nose, muzzle, bill

(1) dig with the **snout**, (2) short **snouts**

The pig's **snout** was wet and covered in mud.

## claw

*n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects

*synonym*: paw, talon, nail

(1) **claw** marks, (2) **claw** hammer

The bear used its **claw** to catch a fish in the river.

## indentation

*n.* a cut, gap, or mark on the surface of something; the space left between the margin and the start of an indented line

*synonym*: gouge, dent, division

(1) a broad **indentation** of the gulf, (2) automatic **indentation**

Archaeologists found a slight **indentation** in the middle of the lower jawbone on a bone excavated from that historic site.

## scaly

*adj.* covered or characterized by scales, which are small, hard, overlapping plates on the skin or surface of an animal or object; having a texture or appearance similar to scales

*synonym*: rough, flaky, reptilian

(1) **scaly** texture, (2) **scaly** reptile

The reptile's **scaly** skin helped protect it from predators.

## steward

*n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.

*synonym*: caretaker, manager, custodian

(1) **steward** duties, (2) **steward** service

The **steward** on the flight was very helpful in assisting

passengers with their needs.

## brew

*v.* to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water

*synonym*: make, prepare

(1) **brew** a cup of tea, (2) **brew** beer

I am going to **brew** some coffee this morning.

## parakeet

*n.* any one of many small to medium-sized species of parrot, usually with a long tail

(1) extinct **parakeet**, (2) African **parakeet**

We had named our pet **parakeets**.

## iguana

*n.* a large tropical lizard with a ridge of spines down its back and a long tail, native to the Americas

*synonym*: lizard, reptile, dragon

(1) green **iguana**, (2) spiny-tailed **iguana**

The nature documentary showcased the mating rituals of the blue **iguana** species native to the Cayman Islands.

## piranha

*n.* a small freshwater fish that inhabit South American rivers that has sharp teeth and eats live animals

(1) swarm of **piranha**, (2) go **piranha** fishing

He thought she was a man-hungry **piranha**.

## florid

*adj.* decorated with elaborate designs or ornamentation; overly ornate or showy

*synonym*: ornate, elaborate, flowery

(1) **florid** music, (2) **florid** style

The **florid** language of the poet was often difficult to understand.

## mammal

*n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body

(1) a primitive **mammal**, (2) a sort of **mammal**

Marine **mammal** populations are declining worldwide due to



ocean pollution.

## decimate

*v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number

*synonym*: devastate, destroy, annihilate

(1) **decimate** population, (2) **decimate** economy

The hurricane **decimated** the small town, leaving behind destruction and devastation.

## 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.

## fauna

*n.* the animal life of a particular region, habitat, or geological period

*synonym*: wildlife, creatures, animals

(1) the tropical **fauna**, (2) **fauna** reserve

The national park is home to a diverse **fauna** of animal species.

## reclaim

*v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

*synonym*: recoup, regain, retake

(1) **reclaim** a competitive position, (2) **reclaim** land from the sea

You may be entitled to **reclaim** some tax.

## Session 2: Spelling

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. b__r's head                    | <i>n.</i> a wild pig, especially a male with tusks  |
| 2. de____te population            | <i>v.</i> to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number          |
| 3. re____m a competitive position | <i>v.</i> to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back  |
| 4. b__w a cup of tea              | <i>v.</i> to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water  |
| 5. sexual pr____ors               | <i>n.</i> an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others   |
| 6. mi____t worker                 | <i>n.</i> a traveler who moves from one region or country to another, especially to find work or better living conditions; a bird or an animal that moves from one place to another |
| 7. re____e exhibition             | <i>n.</i> a cold-blooded animal that has dry, scaly skin and lays eggs on land, such as snakes, lizards, and turtles  |
| 8. green ig____a                  | <i>n.</i> a large tropical lizard with a ridge of spines down its back and a long tail, native to the Americas  |
| 9. hy____th flower                | <i>n.</i> (also "jacinth") a fragrant flowering plant with clustered flowers that grow on a tall, spiky stem, typically in shades of blue, purple, or pink                          |

ANSWERS: 1. boar, 2. decimate, 3. reclaim, 4. brew, 5. predator, 6. migrant, 7. reptile, 8. iguana, 9. hyacinth

10. ex\_\_\_\_e in popularity      *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
11. wr\_\_k a lot of changes      *v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
12. spiny-tailed ig\_\_\_\_a      *n.* a large tropical lizard with a ridge of spines down its back and a long tail, native to the Americas
13. giant li\_\_\_\_d      *n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail
14. st\_\_\_\_d service      *n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.
15. ind\_\_\_\_us worker      *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
16. dig with the sn\_\_t      *n.* the nose and mouth of an animal, especially when protruding or prominently featured
17. fe\_\_\_\_me reputation      *adj.* causing fear or terror; frightening, alarming, or formidable
18. urban on\_\_\_\_ht      *n.* a fierce or violent attack; a sudden and intense outburst of something, usually negative
19. pa\_\_\_\_r habitat      *n.* a large and powerful wildcat with a distinctive sleek black coat found primarily in the Americas, Africa, and Asia

ANSWERS: 10. explode, 11. wreak, 12. iguana, 13. lizard, 14. steward, 15. industrious, 16. snout, 17. fearsome, 18. onslaught, 19. panther

20. apex pr\_\_\_\_or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
21. tropical an\_\_e *n.* a type of small, arboreal lizard native to the Americas, known for its ability to change color and its distinctive triangular head shape
22. hu\_\_\_e into a tunnel *v.* to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way
23. ex\_\_\_\_e in anger *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
24. up\_\_\_t the tree *v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position
25. blood-sucking pa\_\_\_\_te *n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
26. co\_\_\_\_ze planets *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
27. in\_\_\_e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
28. extinct pa\_\_\_\_et *n.* any one of many small to medium-sized species of parrot, usually with a long tail
29. swarm of pi\_\_\_\_a *n.* a small freshwater fish that inhabit South American rivers that has sharp teeth and eats live animals

ANSWERS: 20. predator, 21. anole, 22. hurtle, 23. explode, 24. uproot, 25. parasite, 26. colonize, 27. invade, 28. parakeet, 29. piranha

30. pa\_\_\_\_te disease *n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
31. c\_\_w hammer *n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects
32. ma\_\_\_\_ve swamp *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
33. de\_\_\_\_te economy *v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number
34. muddy sw\_\_p *n.* an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation
35. sc\_\_y texture *adj.* covered or characterized by scales, which are small, hard, overlapping plates on the skin or surface of an animal or object; having a texture or appearance similar to scales
36. wild b\_\_r *n.* a wild pig, especially a male with tusks
37. a broad ind\_\_\_\_\_on of the gulf *n.* a cut, gap, or mark on the surface of something; the space left between the margin and the start of an indented line

ANSWERS: 30. parasite, 31. claw, 32. mangrove, 33. decimate, 34. swamp, 35. scaly, 36. boar, 37. indentation

38. fa\_\_a reserve *n.* the animal life of a particular region, habitat, or geological period
39. wildlife con\_\_\_\_\_ist *n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife
40. fa\_\_\_\_\_nd acreage *n.* land used for farming or agricultural purposes
41. ma\_\_\_\_\_ve forest *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
42. black pa\_\_\_\_\_r *n.* a large and powerful wildcat with a distinctive sleek black coat found primarily in the Americas, Africa, and Asia
43. ve\_\_\_\_\_t trees *adj.* lush and green, often used to describe plant life; denoting youthfulness or inexperience
44. c\_\_w marks *n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects
45. sw\_\_p tour *n.* an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation
46. c\_\_g a filter *v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something

ANSWERS: 38. fauna, 39. conservationist, 40. farmland, 41. mangrove, 42. panther, 43. verdant, 44. claw, 45. swamp, 46. clog

47. de\_\_\_r a meal *v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
48. go pi\_\_\_\_\_a fishing *n.* a small freshwater fish that inhabit South American rivers that has sharp teeth and eats live animals
49. fl\_\_\_d style *adj.* decorated with elaborate designs or ornamentation; overly ornate or showy
50. up\_\_\_t tradition *v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position
51. su\_\_\_e muscles *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
52. ec\_\_\_\_\_e boundary *n.* a transition zone between two distinct ecosystems or biomes, characterized by a mixture of features and species from both areas; an area of high biodiversity due to the diversity of habitats and species found there
53. su\_\_\_\_\_ic vegetation *adj.* describing a region or climate that is between tropical and temperate and often characterized by warm temperatures and moderate rainfall
54. wr\_\_k further damage *v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
55. automatic ind\_\_\_\_\_on *n.* a cut, gap, or mark on the surface of something; the space left between the margin and the start of an indented line

ANSWERS: 47. devour, 48. piranha, 49. florid, 50. uproot, 51. supple, 52. ecotone, 53. subtropic, 54. wreak, 55. indentation

56. sc\_\_y reptile *adj.* covered or characterized by scales, which are small, hard, overlapping plates on the skin or surface of an animal or object; having a texture or appearance similar to scales
57. c\_\_g artery *v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something
58. play ha\_\_c in the mind *n.* widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events
59. short sn\_\_ts *n.* the nose and mouth of an animal, especially when protruding or prominently featured
60. al\_\_\_\_or watch strap *n.* a large semiaquatic reptile with a long tail, powerful jaws, and rough skin, native to the Americas and China
61. cause ha\_\_c *n.* widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events
62. diverse ec\_\_\_\_e *n.* a transition zone between two distinct ecosystems or biomes, characterized by a mixture of features and species from both areas; an area of high biodiversity due to the diversity of habitats and species found there
63. li\_\_\_\_d leather *n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail
64. the tropical fa\_\_a *n.* the animal life of a particular region, habitat, or geological period

ANSWERS: 56. scaly, 57. clog, 58. havoc, 59. snout, 60. alligator, 61. havoc, 62. ecotone, 63. lizard, 64. fauna



65. de\_\_\_r my way                    *v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
66. ve\_\_\_\_\_t fields                *adj.* lush and green, often used to describe plant life; denoting youthfulness or inexperience
67. ind\_\_\_\_\_us student            *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
68. b\_\_w beer                        *v.* to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water
69. dedicated con\_\_\_\_\_ist        *n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife
70. fertile fa\_\_\_\_\_nd                *n.* land used for farming or agricultural purposes
71. co\_\_\_\_\_ze for cultivation      *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
72. the movement of mi\_\_\_\_\_t birds    *n.* a traveler who moves from one region or country to another, especially to find work or better living conditions; a bird or an animal that moves from one place to another
73. st\_\_\_\_\_d duties                *n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.

ANSWERS: 65. devour, 66. verdant, 67. industrious, 68. brew, 69. conservationist, 70. farmland, 71. colonize, 72. migrant, 73. steward

74. in\_\_\_e other tissues      *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
75. su\_\_\_\_\_ic region      *adj.* describing a region or climate that is between tropical and temperate and often characterized by warm temperatures and moderate rainfall
76. su\_\_\_e leather      *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
77. re\_\_\_\_\_m land from the sea      *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
78. a\_\_x predator      *n.* the highest point or tip of something
79. hu\_\_\_e through life      *v.* to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way
80. a\_\_x position      *n.* the highest point or tip of something
81. fl\_\_\_d music      *adj.* decorated with elaborate designs or ornamentation; overly ornate or showy
82. on\_\_\_\_\_ht of criticism      *n.* a fierce or violent attack; a sudden and intense outburst of something, usually negative
83. al\_\_\_\_\_or habitat      *n.* a large semiaquatic reptile with a long tail, powerful jaws, and rough skin, native to the Americas and China
84. an\_\_e habitat      *n.* a type of small, arboreal lizard native to the Americas, known for its ability to change color and its distinctive triangular head shape

ANSWERS: 74. invade, 75. subtropic, 76. supple, 77. reclaim, 78. apex, 79. hurtle, 80. apex, 81. florid, 82. onslaught, 83. alligator, 84. anole

85. fe\_\_\_\_me creature *adj.* causing fear or terror; frightening, alarming, or formidable
86. a sort of ma\_\_\_\_l *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
87. blue hy\_\_\_\_th *n.* (also "jacinth") a fragrant flowering plant with clustered flowers that grow on a tall, spiky stem, typically in shades of blue, purple, or pink
88. a primitive ma\_\_\_\_l *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
89. fossil re\_\_\_\_e *n.* a cold-blooded animal that has dry, scaly skin and lays eggs on land, such as snakes, lizards, and turtles
90. African pa\_\_\_\_et *n.* any one of many small to medium-sized species of parrot, usually with a long tail

ANSWERS: 85. fearsome, 86. mammal, 87. hyacinth, 88. mammal, 89. reptile, 90. parakeet

## Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ meadow was a peaceful spot for a picnic.  
*adj.* lush and green, often used to describe plant life; denoting youthfulness or inexperience
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ tail regenerates if severed.  
*n.* a reptile that has a relatively long body, two pairs of legs, and a tapering tail
3. European powers \_\_\_\_\_ much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.  
*v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
4. The village was unprepared for the sudden \_\_\_\_\_ of the enemy army.  
*n.* a fierce or violent attack; a sudden and intense outburst of something, usually negative
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ climate made for hot and humid weather all year round.  
*adj.* describing a region or climate that is between tropical and temperate and often characterized by warm temperatures and moderate rainfall
6. The car \_\_\_\_\_ down the highway at breakneck speed.  
*v.* to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way
7. The hurricane \_\_\_\_\_ the small town, leaving behind destruction and devastation.  
*v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number

ANSWERS: 1. verdant, 2. lizard's, 3. colonized, 4. onslaught, 5. subtropic, 6. hurtled, 7. decimated

8. The ballerina's \_\_\_\_\_ movements left the audience mesmerized.  
*adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
9. He was known to be very \_\_\_\_\_ and would often work late into the night.  
*adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
10. The lowland \_\_\_\_\_ was full of dangerous animals and poisonous plants.  
*n.* an area of low-lying land that is flooded or saturated with water, often having a growth of natural vegetation
11. The reptile's \_\_\_\_\_ skin helped protect it from predators.  
*adj.* covered or characterized by scales, which are small, hard, overlapping plates on the skin or surface of an animal or object; having a texture or appearance similar to scales
12. \_\_\_\_\_ skin is used to make purses, boots, and other luxury goods.  
*n.* a large semiaquatic reptile with a long tail, powerful jaws, and rough skin, native to the Americas and China
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ between the mountain and the valley provides a transitional habitat for various animal species.  
*n.* a transition zone between two distinct ecosystems or biomes, characterized by a mixture of features and species from both areas; an area of high biodiversity due to the diversity of habitats and species found there
14. 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: 8. supple, 9. industrious, 10. swamp, 11. scaly, 12. Alligator, 13. ecotone, 14. reptile

15. She \_\_\_\_\_ the mystery novel in one sitting.
- v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
16. I spotted a small \_\_\_\_\_ lizard hiding in the bushes.
- n.* a type of small, arboreal lizard native to the Americas, known for its ability to change color and its distinctive triangular head shape
17. The virus has \_\_\_\_\_ havoc on the healthcare system, overwhelming hospitals and causing shortages of supplies.
- v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
18. I have no intention to \_\_\_\_\_ your privacy.
- v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
19. He thought she was a man-hungry \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a small freshwater fish that inhabit South American rivers that has sharp teeth and eats live animals
20. The government is encouraging farmers to expand their \_\_\_\_\_ to increase food production.
- n.* land used for farming or agricultural purposes
21. The national park is home to a diverse \_\_\_\_\_ of animal species.
- n.* the animal life of a particular region, habitat, or geological period
22. The \_\_\_\_\_ on the flight was very helpful in assisting passengers with their needs.
- n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.

ANSWERS: 15. devoured, 16. anole, 17. wreaked, 18. invade, 19. piranha, 20. farmland, 21. fauna, 22. steward

23. You may be entitled to \_\_\_\_\_ some tax.
- v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
24. Marine \_\_\_\_\_ populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.
- n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
25. I am going to \_\_\_\_\_ some coffee this morning.
- v.* to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water
26. The bear used its \_\_\_\_\_ to catch a fish in the river.
- n.* a curved, pointed appendage found on the foot or leg of an animal, used for gripping or grasping; a human hand with long, narrow fingers that are curved like a claw; a machine or tool with a claw-like opening used for gripping or lifting objects
27. The \_\_\_\_\_ language of the poet was often difficult to understand.
- adj.* decorated with elaborate designs or ornamentation; overly ornate or showy
28. The company reached the \_\_\_\_\_ of success in the market.
- n.* the highest point or tip of something
29. The beautiful purple \_\_\_\_\_ flowers bloomed every spring in the garden.
- n.* (also "jacinth") a fragrant flowering plant with clustered flowers that grow on a tall, spiky stem, typically in shades of blue, purple, or pink
30. The \_\_\_\_\_ sleek black coat and piercing yellow eyes make for a striking vision in the forest.
- n.* a large and powerful wildcat with a distinctive sleek black coat found primarily in the Americas, Africa, and Asia

ANSWERS: 23. reclaim, 24. mammal, 25. brew, 26. claw, 27. florid, 28. apex, 29. hyacinth, 30. panther's

31. The native South American animals were in danger because of the \_\_\_\_\_ arrival.
- n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
32. The hunter tracked the \_\_\_\_\_ through the forest for a good shot.
- n.* a wild pig, especially a male with tusks
33. The dragon's \_\_\_\_\_ roar echoed through the valley.
- adj.* causing fear or terror; frightening, alarming, or formidable
34. The storm wreaked \_\_\_\_\_ on the town, causing widespread damage and power outages.
- n.* widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events
35. We had named our pet \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* any one of many small to medium-sized species of parrot, usually with a long tail
36. The drain was \_\_\_\_\_ with hair and needed to be cleaned out.
- v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something
37. The government revoked his license to employ \_\_\_\_\_ labor crews.
- n.* a traveler who moves from one region or country to another, especially to find work or better living conditions; a bird or an animal that moves from one place to another
38. The nature documentary showcased the mating rituals of the blue \_\_\_\_\_ species native to the Cayman Islands.
- n.* a large tropical lizard with a ridge of spines down its back and a long tail, native to the Americas

ANSWERS: 31. predator's, 32. boar, 33. fearsome, 34. havoc, 35. parakeets, 36. clogged, 37. migrant, 38. iguana



39. Tapeworms are \_\_\_\_\_ that live in the intestines of humans and animals.
- n.* an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense
40. Archaeologists found a slight \_\_\_\_\_ in the middle of the lower jawbone on a bone excavated from that historic site.
- n.* a cut, gap, or mark on the surface of something; the space left between the margin and the start of an indented line
41. We decided to \_\_\_\_\_ our lives and move to a new city.
- v.* to remove or pull out by the roots, especially a plant or tree; to displace or remove someone or something from a particular place or position
42. The \_\_\_\_\_ trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.
- n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
43. The pig's \_\_\_\_\_ was wet and covered in mud.
- n.* the nose and mouth of an animal, especially when protruding or prominently featured
44. The old building \_\_\_\_\_ in a fiery inferno.
- v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
45. The extinction of this species has been a significant concern for \_\_\_\_\_.
- n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

ANSWERS: 39. parasites, 40. indentation, 41. uproot, 42. mangrove, 43. snout, 44. exploded, 45. conservationists

ANSWERS: